Chapter 5

5.1 Side Story

In conversations between characters, Korean is marked with "", English is marked with 「」 and Russian is marked with [ ].

Las Vegas at night is more beautiful than during the day. As the sun sets, the sleeping city begins to awaken. Luxury hotels line the main street, flaunting their colorful lights and neon signs. Street lights, bridges, railings, signs, palm trees and giant screens, a colorful light party takes place wherever the eye can reach. Cars lined up on the street flashing their blinding headlights, and there were huge crowds of people pouring into the streets. Music is played everywhere. Colorful laser beams and streams of water from a giant fountain decorate the pitch-black sky. People line up to enjoy dinner, shop, and watch different shows while soaking up the dazzling spectacle at a classy restaurant or bar. No kaleidoscope could be more luxurious than that.

There is a pinnacle place in that unreal world. A space where tens of millions of dollars evaporate like a mirage overnight. Casinos opened their mouths and swallowed the flow of customers. Some are constantly looking for a little profit, while others dream of the biggest jackpot of their lives.

The bright lights and bustling tunes from hundreds of slot machines, the stinging cigarette smoke, the strong smell of alcohol in the air, the strict supervision of guards, the international language mingling throughout the tables and sounds. of sharp chips than any other noise. The flood of stimulation quickly numbs the five senses and dull reason. Gradually, the people here will lose control and become immersed in the game.

The casino side has taken full advantage of human psychology. The clock and windows are simplified to reduce the feeling of reality, and the table arrangement is also carefully considered, the higher the stake the deeper inside.

At the high-priced tables, the dealers are skilled, and most of the players are regular customers. The casino also offers suitable services to steadily attract them. Every time you visit the restaurant, Pit Boss, the person in charge of sales, comes out to greet each customer and mix drinks according to each person's taste. As large amounts of money come and go, monitoring becomes stricter. These make it more difficult to penetrate than any other active location.

Kwon Taek Joo is shuffling cards on the table. He wears the name tag 'Philip' on his chest, a 10-year veteran dealer and Chinese-American. Because he wore a special disguise, his appearance was not much different from him. That was so he could naturally approach the target with a lot of vigilance.

At the table he is in charge of, 'Blackjack' is going on in full swing. 'Blackjack' is a simple card game and incredibly complex. The basic rule is that the dealer and players draw cards at random and the person whose total is closest to 21 wins. However, if your total number of cards exceeds 21 and becomes a 'Boom' (quack), you will lose regardless of your opponent's hand.

None of the four sitting customers were 'squeaked'. The total of the cards changes from 13 to 19. Now it's the dealer's turn, it's Kwon Taek Joo's turn to open the cards. The song that was revealed in advance was '3'. The number is small, so the possibility of 'snapping' is very high. This is because only

the dealer must continue to receive more cards until the total number of cards exceeds 17. Players pay attention to the face-down cards with worried eyes.

「Turn the cards over」

The remaining card is turned over. A strange sigh came from the player when the number '7' appeared. If the card about to be added is 'A', then the blackjack will be completed and the dealer will collect all bets. Even if a '10' card or a card with a letter like 'J', 'Q' or 'K' appears, the sum of the cards is 20 and the dealer wins. 'Blackjack' is usually a 1:1 game between the dealer and each player. However, everyone sitting at the table unanimously hoped that a number of buttons less than '6' would be drawn.

Kwon Taek Joo according to the rules draws one more card. The card is revealed immediately and placed next to the existing cards. That's card '5'. Still have to take one more card because the total is less than 16. The player now clenches his fist and mutters whispers as if reciting a spell, staring at Kwon Taek Joo's hand.

Draw another card. The card's tension reaches its maximum until it is turned over and placed down. :Please: , as if to break the expectations of a player who spoke up, 'Card 6 appears. 3, 7, 5, 6. As a joke, a total of 21.

「Blackjack 」

Declaring another victory, Kwon Taek Joo collected all the chips on the table. The collapsed players gritted their teeth helplessly.

「Asians are very difficult after all.」

They both smoked and openly complained. They are not social, and even if they die early, they will still try to win. Kwon Taek Joo has heard that complaint for three days now.

There is a common misconception that people who visit casinos have. If you get acquainted with the dealer, he will help you a little, and if you win the psychological battle, the hand will turn in your favor. But unfortunately, all card games are completely based on luck. As the number of repetitions increases, the consecutive win rate decreases. Being close to the dealer really doesn't change anything.

Players who blew a lot of money left one by one. An older man who guarded the table until the end lost the remaining chips. He said he owned a large shipping company and always gave generous tips.

:Phillip, it seems you are actually winning right now, but you have to lose often to achieve your long-term goal. If you keep winning, who else will sit at your table?:

(In English)

Hm.. it really doesn't depend on Kwon Taek Joo.

He wanted to refute, but he restrained himself and nodded.

「I will remember. Please come back next time.」

The man laughed loudly.

「You told me to come back after wiping everything away like that.」

Even saying that, he will probably visit Kwon Taek Joo's table again tomorrow. People with greedy minds must win to be satisfied.

After the man left, the table was empty.

It's time to show up.

「Are you alone again? Did you finally win today?」

Kwon Taek Joo was cleaning up his seat for a while when he heard the voice he was waiting for. He looked up, a middle-aged woman was grinning.

「You should play with me too.」 she said and sat down on the middle chair.

Her name is Kiara Chang. She said she is doing fashion-related business in Italy. She was born in China, but mostly lives in Italy. While playing cards, she said she married a local husband 10 years ago, and they had no children, thus the sad story of the estrangement between the couple arose.

It's all a lie. Kiara Chang's nationality is North Korea, not Chinese. Her real name is Choi Yeon Hwa, and she was in charge of North Korea's European funds while living in Italy for nearly 20 years. It would be impossible without the trust of the party leadership because the size of the slush fund she alone manages is several trillion won.

However, like other North Korean elites, she appears to have undergone a gradual ideological change. As her knowledge and thinking expanded through her long life abroad, she became skeptical of the North Korean system, which had been deadlocked for decades. Later, when a large-scale hereditary purge of the leaders was carried out, and her relatives and colleagues who followed the party were killed, she decided to ask for help. refugee.

Italy, which is discussing and cooperating with South Korea and the United States on this issue, did not provide any information about Choi Yeon Hwa immediately after her deportation. It's for her safety. This was a few years ago, not long after NIS started monitoring Choi Yeon Hwa. Recently, intelligence information obtained shows that a social group with close ties to domestic political forces has created a large amount of slush funds and transferred them to North Korea. According to intelligence information, this money was laundered in many European countries and transferred to North Korea, so Choi Yeon Hwa must have known about the situation. If it was simply the purchase of support funds from a pro-North Korea group, or if the price was paid in advance to gain some advantage in the political world, then it is necessary to find out in detail who is involved in the matter. Who are they and what is their purpose?

North Korea also aggressively hunted for Choi Yeon Hwa. Not just because of the trillions of won she swindled while in hiding, but because if she told everything, everything from the secret accounts hidden throughout Europe to the fundraising methods, The origin and methods of money laundering will be exposed. As part of sanctions on North Korea, if secret accounts are tied up, the North Korean government will have no way to raise dollars.

Did she have a premonition that she would be chased for the rest of her life? Choi Yeon Hwa underwent a full body plastic surgery right after being wanted. With the active support of the Italian government, her status was also completely changed to 'Kiara Chang'. It's not a lie that she married a local. I just don't know if that marriage is a limited relationship on paper or a real relationship.

Choi Yeon Hwa, who ended her long secluded life in Italy, recently started visiting casinos in Las Vegas. Is she trying to play the role of 'Kiara Chang', a successful businesswoman who is bored with married life? Or maybe she wants to let go of her true self in a place where everyone loses themselves.

One thing to note in this activity is that there must be no physical conflicts. Choi Yeon Hwa is now Italian, so diplomatic friction must be minimized. If the fact that she is in contact with South Korea is discovered, the North Koreans will be even crazier to eliminate her. You can't alarm an important source.

Kwon Taek Joo tried to find a way to approach her as naturally as possible. The problem is that Choi Yeon Hwa's wariness towards strangers is very high. The plainclothes bodyguards she hired were pretending to be customers, hiding as quietly and neatly as possible throughout the casino.

This is why Kwon Taek Joo disguised himself as a dealer. To dispel Choi Yeon Hwa's suspicions, it seemed more effective to let her approach first instead of hastily approaching. So, four days ago, he disguised himself as 'Philip', a dealer at the biggest casino in Las Vegas, and waited for her.

Due to the nature of the work, supervision is very strict and cannot be neglected even for a moment. Even when the target doesn't appear, Kwon Taek Joo still has to exhaust himself to deal with other guests. He wondered if there had ever been an activity that made him so mentally tired.

Choi Yeon Hwa comes down to the lobby around 2 a.m. every day and enjoys the game. Kwon Taek Joo didn't try to be polite, and he didn't even risk starting a conversation. But she seemed interested.

「Did you want to lose today?」

“Good luck”

She pouted at his industrial answer. 「I will shuffle」 he said and shuffled the cards.

Shuffling is the rule at big tables. It is a measure to prevent suspicions of card manipulation by machines. For that reason, Kwon Taek Joo put all his effort into practicing, staying up all night to learn how to handle and follow 'Philip's' habits.

Soon, the waitress approached.

「Do you want something to drink?」

「No, I'm fine.」

Choi Yeon Hwa refused all services provided by the casino. It seemed that caution was ingrained in her. In case something was suspicious, she didn't even utter a word.

「Is this also a casino business secret? Are you going to make me bet money on alcohol?」

「Impossible. It's a special service only for VIPs. If you don't like alcohol, we have water and soft drinks.」

「Thank you for your concern, but I already have water.」

「I see」 Kwon Taek Joo said and put down the cards one by one. Choi Yeon Hwa silently shrugged her shoulders in sarcasm. The way she touched the chips was somewhat strange.

「But drinking with Philip is another matter.」

「I'm not allowed to drink alcohol while working.」

「It's not necessary to drink it right now.」

The saying is full of meaning. When their eyes met, she smiled and softly closed her eyes. Is she seducing Kwon Taek Joo? He was a bit surprised because the atmosphere was nothing special.

「What's wrong? Don't you like it?」

「This is the first time a customer invited me to drink alcohol.」

「Lie」

「Aren't you going to bet anymore? I will turn over the cards.」

「You are like stone.」

Choi Yeon Hwa grumbled openly. She had no companions, and guests asked for her own room, but even when eating, she was always alone. She could have found a man to be with if she wanted but she didn't. Kwon Teak Joo wondered why she suddenly expressed such an attitude.

Since learning that 'Philip' is Chinese-American, she has always shown friendly feelings. Of course, he thought even that was just part of acting.

Or, if Choi Yeon Hwa was honest, he had no reason to refuse. Because he didn’t bother waiting for her here anymore. Furthermore, there aren't many disadvantages to approaching the target that way. All Kwon Taek Joo has to do is create just the right atmosphere, then use confession triggers to extract the necessary information. He’s just not sure yet. Kwon Taek Joo needs to be careful.

The total number of buttons on the cards that Choi Yeon Hwa received is 17. The card placed in front of Kwon Taek Joo is the '9' card. The card facing down next to it has been turned over. When 'A' appeared, Choi Yeon Hwa's shoulders sank.

「Oh, I lost. Didn't the beauty's plan succeed?」

「Because blackjack is not a psychological battle.」

「Aren't you gay?」

「Does it look like that?」

She smiled and picked up the chips. Choi Yeon Hwa said, :Wow: and suddenly tilted her upper body forward. She began to examine each piece of Kwon Taek Joo's face. There was no way advanced camouflage techniques could be seen through, but he couldn't help but feel nervous under that gaze.

「Looking at this, I don't know if he's gay or not, but he seems gentle. I like a man who listens and understands.」

「You can't be sure just looking from the outside.」

Someone suddenly interrupted the conversation between two people. Choi Yeon Hwa turned her head with a confused expression. For a moment, Kwon Taek Joo's eyes flinched, because the voice that reached his ears was too familiar. A unique body odor that he hadn't noticed until now because he was too focused on Choi Yeon Hwa. He raised his eyes hopefully. Zhenya was slowly walking closer to the table.

Why is he here?

His cheeks stiffened in shock.

「What do you mean by gentle? He's perfect for a Chippendale show.」

Zhenya looked Kwon Taek Joo up and down and added. Choi Yeon Hwa considered it a mischievous joke and laughed reluctantly. The guy who attracts attention because of his height of over 2 meters and his unnecessarily dashing appearance is dressed a bit colorfully today. His appearance reminds people of a white peacock, causing people around her to glance at him. Of course, unwanted attention focused on Kwon Taek Joo's table.

Without hesitation, Zhenya sat down next to Choi Yeon Hwa.

:Can I sit here?:

:Well, I didn't rent that seat either.:

Choi Yeon Hwa nodded without reservation. Zhenya also squirmed strangely towards Kwon Taek Joo. He seemed to see that his awkwardness was completely because he was surprised.

Without a doubt, 'Chippendale Show' is one of the attractions that represents Las Vegas, and it is a show where male strippers with beautiful bodies will perform various performances for female audiences. The problem is that 'Philip' has an extremely normal body. Telling a woman she would look good if she were to strip is more likely to be considered sexual harassment than a compliment. Is it different for men?

:You better be careful. He will not lose.:

Responding to Choi Yeon Hwa's advice, Zhenya nodded indifferently and stared at Kwon Taek Joo. The two of them made eye contact again. He wanted to ask why someone who shouldn’t be in Korea appeared here, but now was not the time. Kwon Taek Joo had to regain composure.

:Winning so easily is no fun. I can't wait to see how scary he is.:

Zhenya laughed provocatively. Kwon Taek Joo tried his best to keep a cold expression while feeling the artificial skin covering his face being pulled away.

Phillip? Bad name.

(Zhenya's thought I'm guessing)

He continued to debate in his mind whether this kid was really planning on ruining everything or not. Kwon Teak Joo shuffled the cards, ignoring Zhenya.

:China or Japan? Or.. Are you Korean?:

Zhenya asked meaningfully. Kwon Taek Joo stopped for a moment and stared at him. Zhenya muttered with a shameless face. Choi Yeon Hwa looked at the two people in a strange fight in turn and shrugged.

:Hmm. Do they all look the same to Westerners? They think that all Asians are Chinese.:

:Really? I Don't know why but he looks like a Korean I know.:

(Zhenya hahah)

Kwon Taek Joo's strength is concentrated at both ends of his jaw. Zhenya just raised his eyebrows as if he hadn't done anything wrong. When 'Philip' looked agitated, Choi Yeon Hwa burst out laughing.

:Many people often see it wrong.:

As if listening to Kwon Taek Joo's voice, she even gave advice to Zhenya.

:However, it is rude to say that Chinese people are Japanese or Korean. There are many people who feel offended by the long and intertwined history.:

:I have to remember this. I behaved inappropriately.:

It was casual teasing. If possible, he wanted to immediately grab Zhenya's collar.

After settling in Korea, he often appeared at the places where Kwon Taek Joo worked. He even told Zhenya not to follow him because his status could lead to diplomatic friction that was useless. He is always present and interrupts Kwon Taek Joo's activities. No, if only in terms of results, Zhenya always targets Kwon Taek Joo. However, Kwon Taek Joo was not sure whether he really helped him or not. He sometimes suddenly interrupts the crowd like now.

Zhenya always walks around the scene as he pleases. He probably doesn't know that he always stands out wherever he goes with his special appearance and physical condition. Zhenya never disguises himself like Kwon Taek Joo, it's like advertising to let everyone around him know who he is. In fact, ever since the guy appeared, Choi Yeon Hwa has felt him.

Kwon Taek Joo knows that Zhenya is always watching him. He warned him not to do that and tried to set up a separate work account but to no avail. Zhenya comes like a ghost wherever Kwon Taek Joo is active. He suspected that Zhenya might have installed a listening or tracking device somewhere on

his body. That's why he feels even more awkward and worried if he doesn't appear right now. Because he didn't know where Zhenya was and what was happening to him.

Of course so far there have been no major problems. But he couldn't help but worry, because every time Zhenya got involved, he always had to pay a pretty hefty price for him. The worry in Kwon Taek Joo's heart resounded again.

He was awakened by the sound of tapping on the table. When he realized, Choi Yeon Hwa and Zhenya were staring at Kwon Taek Joo.

:Shouldn't you deal the cards?:

:Ah, sorry.:

He hurriedly shuffled the cards. While moving his hands out of habit, Kwon Taek Joo thought over and over how to overcome this difficulty. His head was pounding.

:Player Cards.:

He placed a card in front of Choi Yeon Hwa and Zhenya. Card '8' and card 'Q' are drawn one after another. He placed a card in front of him.

:The cards are for the dealer.:

The first card is 'A'. Choi Yeon Hwa lamented and said :Look:

If the dealer's open card is 'A', the player is at a significant disadvantage and is asked if they have purchased some form of insurance. With insurance, even if you lose, you only pay half of your bet. Instead, if the player wins, they will receive 1.5x back.

Choi Yeon Hwa and Zhenya shook their heads in unison. Kwon Taek Joo handed out the cards one by one. Choi Yeon Hwa's card is '9' and Zhenya’s card is 'A'. Blackjack was completed immediately.

:Wow? Is that real?:

Choi Yeon Hwa couldn't help but be surprised. Of course, it won't end there. If the dealer, Kwon Taek Joo, also hits blackjack, they will not be able to receive the money due to the tie. To prepare for this case, Zhenya can get back 1x of the pre-stake amount.

:Do you want your money back?:

Zhenya shook his head again. Just like usual, even when gambling, Zhenya was still very reckless. Kwon Taek Joo's face down card was turned over immediately. It's a '6'. Zhenya wins.

Winner, winner chicken dinner.

After declaring Zhenya’s victory, Kwon Taek Joo took a chip from the bank and gave it to him. The corner of Zhenya’s mouth curled up. Sometimes he won, sometimes he lost, but for some reason his stomach turned.

Kwon Taek Joo shuffles the cards and starts a new game. Both of Zhenya’s cards are '9's. Kwon Taek Joo's face card is 'Q'. At this time, the dealer must check the remaining cards with the reader and notify the player whether they have achieved blackjack or not.

:No blackjack:

Zhenya tapped his index and middle fingers on the table to signal 'split'. because his fingers are long, the hand gesture is especially elegant, to the point that Kwon Taek Joo unconsciously stares blankly.

:I hesitate.:

Choi Yeon Hwa's announcement of giving up suddenly brought Kwon Taek Joo back to his senses. Once again faithful to his duty as a dealer, he split Zhenya’s '9' card in half and gave one more card. When the 'A' card and the '3' card are dealt, the total is 20, 12. Zhenya gets 12 buttons in total. With the addition of the '7', the combination of cards created a total of 19.

Choi Yeon Hwa, who was watching, exclaimed, :Oh my gosh.: Kwon Taek Joo and Zhenya’s eyes met. He quietly narrowed his eyes and observed Kwon Taek Joo's expression. Zhenya’s eyes were full of mockery. To be honest, the bet amount was not Kwon Taek Joo's personal money and it didn't matter how much he lost, but clearly, the anger was a lot.

:Do you want to bet more?:

:So boring. We have to do something to have more fun, right?:

Zhenya slyly stacked the chips in his hand. At least $100,000 each. Choi Yeon Hwa watched the betting guy with interest.

The face down card is turned over. A '6' card is drawn. Since the total of the cards is only 16, Zhenya draws one more card. An '8' card is drawn and the sum of the three cards exceeds 21.

:Oh, is that so?:

Zhenya smirked. Is it useless to feel like the taunt was aimed at Kwon Taek Joo.

:It's not fun because I keep winning.:

Kwon Taek Joo was angry at the provocation but he did not show it. He exhausted his patience to the maximum. Zhenya clearly knew Kwon Taek Joo's feelings and continued to move forward.

A few more games were played, and Zhenya showed no signs of leaving. More and more chips piled up in front of him. Zhenha won 6 or 7 games out of 10 bets. The manager comes and observed the games. This is because cheating often takes place or casino robbery occurs due to collusion between players or between players and dealers. Kwon Taek Joo's mentality became even heavier.

It was a game that depended on probability, but he had continuously lost to him. How can Zhenya continuously win without cheating? Or was he born that lucky?

Zhenya’s consecutive victories once again attracted public attention. Even Choi Yeon Hwa took her hands off the card game and watched him. Every time they communicated with each other with their eyes, Kwon Taek Joo winked fiercely and told him to go away, but he acted as if he didn't know

anything. He even nodded towards the door, but Zhenya pretended not to know and just raised his eyebrows innocently.

:Oh, Philip. Damned, I have met the right opponent.:

:No, I was worried but you didn't realize it.:

Kwon Taek Joo straightened his stiff face and grinned. Zhenya smiled sarcastically.

:But you can't openly show that you're not happy for the guests.:

:Oh. I'm just a little tired.:

The corner of Kwon Taek Joo's mouth pulled out with difficulty, feeling like he was about to spasm. Zhenya rolled a chip between his long fingers and whispered lazily.

:If you're tired, rest a bit. I have a reservation.:

Either way, it doesn't sound like a joke. However, Choi Yeon Hwa thought it was just a joke and said, :What? Are you really going to rest?: She laughed. Kwon Taek Joo felt like his blood boiled for a moment.

Kwon Taek Joo is once again confused. The sum of the two cards Zhenya received is 14. A rather ambiguous hand to discard or play and receive a new card. On the other hand, Kwon Taek Joo's card is 'A'. Zhenya makes a bold shot without insurance. Another card is dealt. A '6' was added to complete 20. Immediately, Zhenya pushed all his chips in front of Kwon Taek Joo. Even the onlookers around him were agitated by the sudden all-in.

A crazy man suddenly appeared from somewhere. Does he know how much it costs? Kwon Taek Joo has never worried about Zhenya’s wallet, but he also never thought he would throw money on the street like this. Choi Yeon Hwa also expressed concern.

:Are you okay?:

:I'm not in the mood to eat little by little.:

(he’s saying that he doesn’t feel like playing a little. Something like that.)

Everyone watching looked nervous as if they had bet their own money, but it was Zhenya alone. Zhenya threw Kwon Taek Joo a meaningful look. He sighed softly and continued playing cards.

:Check the face down card.:

Kwon Taek Joo turned the card face up. For a moment, the surrounding noise seemed to stop. Everyone held their breath and just looked at Kwon Taek Joo's hand.

Card 8 is turned over. Zhenya wins. It was an unbelievable result even though Kwon Taek Joo himself was in charge. Cheers and applause rang out all around.

:You're really good. I just keep losing. Do you have any tricks?:

Choi Yeon Hwa was excited as if she had won. Zhenya leaned back deeply in his chair and stared at Kwon Taek Joo's stunned face. Then he naturally turned to look into Choi Yeon Hwa's eyes.

:Shall I teach you?:

The tone was gentle. Kwon Taek Joo's hand that was pulling out the chip suddenly stopped. Choi Yeon Hwa shows deep curiosity.

:Is there really a way?:

:Maybe. Maybe not.:

:What is it?:

:Why don't you try checking for yourself? I can't tell you myself.:

Once again, the half-hearted statement left room for flirtation with slightly narrowed eyes.

What is this kid saying?

Perhaps because of the light, the long eyelashes seem to sparkle strangely. Kwon Taek Joo's stomach boiled. Choi Yeon Hwa just looked at Zhenya with puzzled eyes at the unexpected suggestion. Immediately after, her smile deepened.

(Not Zhenya ‘cheating’ on Kwon Taek Joo when their not even dating)

:So shall we go drink together? I have no companion.:

:Okay.:

Zhebya happily nodded. Choi Yeon Hwa immediately packed her clothes and bags. When Zhenya stood up from his seat and met Kwon Taek Joo's eyes, he greeted without hesitation.

:See you next time, Philip.:

He didn't know what to do with this unexpected situation. Zhenya threw back a chip, saying it was a tip. When he received it, it turned out to be $500,000. The man smiled at the speechless Kwon Taek Joo and then escorted Choi Yeon Hwa out of the casino. He was dumbfounded as he watched the two of them walk away.

How long has it been? Someone knocked on the table. Meanwhile, other guests occupied the empty chairs and sat down.

Aren't you dealing cards?

Oh yes. Sorry

Kwon Taek Joo awkwardly shuffled the cards mechanically. The manager who was watching from behind squeezed Kwon Taek Joo's shoulder and then stepped back.

He shook his head to clear his mind. Right now Kwon Taek Joo must focus on 'Philip's' work. But even after pushing himself like that, all he could think about was Zhenya and Choi Yeon Hwa. He didn't

understand what the hell Zhenya was doing. He was just, vaguely, very worried. Damn, there's still an hour left until the shift ends.

5.2 Side Story

Finally, it's time to change shifts. Kwon Teak Joo quickly changed clothes. 'Philip' and his close friends cracked jokes, but he couldn't hang out like other times. He refused the invitation to go out for a drink and hurriedly left the dressing room.

At that moment, Annie, the concierge, came to visit. She gave Kwon Taek Joo an envelope of unknown origin and said that it was an item delivered to 'Philip' by a certain customer. It was an envelope with the logo of a famous hotel nearby. Inside there is a card that is said to be the room key. Obviously from Zhenya.

Kwon Taek Joo left behind his colleagues who were teasing him about whether he was going to meet his lover and went to the employee parking lot. Kwon Taek Joo drove an older SUV to a safe place. It's a large mechanical car wash. He casually parked the SUV and went to the bathroom. When he reappeared, he had completely transformed from 'Philip' to Kwon Taek Joo.

He went to the parking lot opposite and got into a brand new sedan. Kwon Taek Joo immediately started the car and drove out, the destination was a luxury hotel with a logo printed on the envelope.

That hotel is located in a prime location of Las Vegas. Here you can enjoy panoramic views of Las Vegas from anywhere in the 3,000 guest rooms. Just like that, cars and people came in and out continuously. Kwon Taek Joo was also a part there, he left the valet parking and went inside.

When he arrived at the elevator reserved for guest rooms, the receptionist asked Kwon Taek Joo for the key card key. He obediently handed over the card key that had been given to him before. The employee then asked to wait a moment and called another employee. The new employee who appeared soon greeted him warmly and then led Kwon Taek Joo to the other side.

The place he arrived at was in front of a separate elevator. It seemed that only that side was particularly quiet, and it was reserved for the VIP room only.

When Kwon Taek Joo entered the elevator and inserted the key card, the light on the top floor button turned on. When he got there and looked out, there were only a few doors in the hallway.

The room Kwon Taek Joo entered was likely 150 pyeong. It appears to be the Presidential Suite, which is said to cost between 30 and 40 million won per night. Three bedrooms, four bathrooms, spacious living room, private bar, terrace with comfortable sofa bed and private swimming pool. The interior in the old Persian style disturbs the view. Kwon Taek Joo looked at its scale and splendor and couldn't help but sigh.

The employee said to call them anytime if you needed anything and then quietly withdrew. Kwon Taek Joo glanced around and walked inside immediately without looking closely around the guest room. He chose a bottle of whiskey and a glass and sat down on the sofa in the living room. The seat cushions were gently turned to support his tired body in the most comfortable way.

As soon as the glass was filled, it emptied in one go. The feeling of a full stomach immediately disappeared. But after just a little bit of comfort, complicated things appeared in Kwon Taek Joo's mind. He poured and then drank the whiskey in the glass, his eyes always directed towards the door.

Truly, there wasn't a day that went by that he wasn't seething over Zhenya. Even if he asked him not to interfere in work matters, Zhenya wouldn't listen. If so, please let me know in advance. But that kid always surprises Kwon Taek Joo every time and everywhere. He didn't know if Zhenya was trying to help or if he was trying to get in the way.

That guy is a diplomat, but not careful at all. You won't be able to forget that face once you see it, but Kwon Taek Joo has never seen him in disguise. It seemed that in Zhenya's mind, there were no international problems that could arise for himself. Knowing that he was also very reckless in Russia, why should Kwon Taek Joo himself be more restless?

Even ten fingers cannot count all the troubles from Zhenya.

Were you working in Dubai at that time? Kwon Taek Joo tries to stay home as much as possible during holidays or his mother's birthday, but at that time there is an emergency at headquarters and there is nothing he can do. At that time, Zhenya visited the house while Kwon Taek Joo was away. After that, he brought his mother's homemade rice cake soup to Dubai. Have you heard that Koreans have to eat rice cake soup on the first day of the new year? I don't understand how his mother and that boy can understand and talk to each other, while both speak in their native language.

Because of the long flight, all the water in the soup leaked out. Just looking at it made me feel choked up, so Kwon Taek Joo refused and said he didn't need to eat, but it was useless. Zhenya immediately threatened Kwon Taek Joo, saying that if he ignored his sincerity, then his sincerity towards his target, him, would be in vain. And since the target had fallen into his hands, Kwon Taek Joo had no choice but to swallow the tteokguk that was as dry as a desert.

Is that all? There was a time when Kwon Taek Joo had difficulty because he was Zhenya's date. That's when he took action in Iran, a traditional ally of North Korea. The two countries illegally traded weapons and supported the development of nuclear programs under the pretext of 'scientific and technical cooperation' from a very early age. However, US intelligence agencies determined that exchanges between the two countries gradually decreased from 2013 onwards.

But intelligence obtained from a UN member state directly contradicts that analysis. Until recently, the two countries actively traded arms and technology. Kwon Taek Joo also heard that a North Korean trading company called 'Cheongwoon' in Tehran was relaying this. It was even discovered that parts related to ballistic missiles were transported through Air Koryo and Iran Air, the national airlines of both countries.

To get clearer and more detailed information, Kwon Taek Joo approached the commander of the Iranian army. However, Zhenya appeared right at that place. Because the target recognized him a

long time ago, even Kwon Taek Joo had to greet them. Zhenya blatantly introduced Kwon Taek Joo as his lover. When both the subject and Kwon Taek Joo were shocked, Zhenya corrected Kwon Taek Joo as his subordinate, saying it was just a joke. Because from the looks of it, Kwon Taek Joo was affiliated with the Russian embassy, so there was no doubt about the target.

The risky campaign at that time was easily completed thanks to Russia and Iran having a common enemy, the United States, and the long-term cooperation between the two countries in the fields of security and economics. Of course, only physical suffering is reduced, but mental suffering is several times more than normal.

Zhenya always interfered like that, ruining all of Kwon Taek Joo's plans and very actively boasting that the mission was completed entirely thanks to him. In exchange, Kwon Taek Joo was taken to Ajinoki Island and forced to go on vacation many times. Because he always stopped by Russia after completing a mission, one time Chief Kwak asked about matters related to Zhenya. Manager Kwak also could not easily understand Kwon Taek Joo's explanation. If it were Kwon Taek Joo and it were him, I probably wouldn't be able to understand.

He was very upset every time Zhenya came to his house to see his mother. Because it's his nature to not care about what should and shouldn't be said. One day, his mother felt uncomfortable communicating with Zhenya. She heard that there was a translation software and asked how to use it. Kwon Taek Joo was in a cold sweat. He said that Russian translation is not common, and even when there is translation software, mistranslations are common. His mother was very sorry but still obediently believed her son's words. But Kwon Taek Joo also doesn't know when that lie will be exposed. Suppose his mother tried to translate Zhenya's words through translation software... Just imagining it made my head spin. Every day that passes is like walking on a tightrope.

Looking back on the past journey, Kwon Taek Joo sighed. How did you get involved with such a troublesome guy? It was Kwon Taek Joo who was determined to tame Zhenya rather than continue running away from him. However it was more difficult than expected. Even though they've been together for a year, he still doesn't know Zhenya's whereabouts. Even when they were together all day, Kwon Taek Joo didn't know what he was thinking.

..Anyway...where is this bastard and what is he doing?

He glared dissatisfied at the silent door again. It's time for Zhenya to come back. Two hours after leaving the casino with Choi Yeon Hwa there was still no text from Zhenya. Did something happen? Since Kwon Taek Joo doesn't know what he's planning to do, it's hard to guess what he's doing right now. The two of them went out drinking together, but he wondered if that was all.

(Definitely not just drinking. If you know what I mean, it stated ‘that’ in the beginning about his need for sex.)

Or roll around in bed again? Of course that is not surprising. Zhenya's lower body is inherently promiscuous, and when it comes to women, he doesn't care about age, nationality, or style. On the contrary, Choi Yeon Hwa is what Kwon Taek Joo needs to worry about.

(Hahha! He doesn’t care about Zhenya but he worries for Choi Yeon Hwa. Haha, gosh I love Kwon Taek Joo.)

He tapped his watch, the ticking second hand made him more nervous. Finally Kwon Taek Joo stood up from his chair with a sigh and strode towards the door. He wasn't wearing camouflage or had any plans in mind, but he had to find Zhenya quickly.

That was the moment he was about to grab the door handle, when suddenly the lock was unlocked and the door opened from the outside. The person who appeared in front of the hesitant Kwon Taek Joo was none other than Zhenya. He slowly observed Kwon Taek Joo, who had a serious expression, from face to toe.

5.3 Side Story

In conversations between characters, Korean is marked with "", English is marked with 「」 and Russian is marked with [ ].

[Where did you go?]

[I saw it. You went out with that girl. What have you two been doing up until now?]

Zhenya spoke meaningfully. Kwon Taek Joo was uncomfortable but he tried to calm down and then stared at Zhenya uncomfortably. The guy leisurely walked past Kwon Taek Joo and then sat on the sofa, pouring whiskey from the bottle that Kwon Taek Joo had already drunk nearly half of into a glass. He didn't immediately drink the rich amber liquid but shook it in the glass.

[Why Choi Yeon Hwa, why did you do that?]

[What's wrong? Do you think I will kill her?]

Zhenya blinked and then slowly looked up. He even laughed at Kwon Taek Joo, who was extremely confused.

[You're not that inflexible.]

[How about not?]

[Kwon Taek Joo, what are you really planning to do to seduce that woman? Are you really planning to use a handsome man?]

[Who used the handsome guy?]

It's beyond words. Zhenya rushed in to disrupt the group of subjects he had been diligently following for many days. The guy who had been listening silently suddenly smiled, it seemed like Kwon Taek Joo's answer made him very satisfied.

[Ah, so you were planning on chasing me? Are you afraid that she and I will have fun together?]

[No. Because I don't know what you will do with her. If you kill her, it will become troublesome.]

[It seems like you already said that. I won't attack unless someone else touches me first.]

Kwon Taek Joo gasped and was speechless. It's true he said that.

Zhenya didn't mind, he tilted his chin to the seat next to him, folded his arms and said

[It seems like you don't need this?]

In his hand was a small microchip.

[What's that?]

[Information on North Korea's loan account in Europe. And the source of funds deposited into each account, etc?]

Zhenya always easily gets what he wants. Always the same. Therefore, Kwon Taek Joo kept feeling uncomfortable because he felt like he was losing.

He stared at Zhenya with a disapproving expression and then reluctantly approached. Kwon Taek Joo reached for the chip, but Zhenya suddenly retracted his hand.

[Did you think I would waste so much time just to get this?]

[Unlike some others, he cannot expose his face in all directions. I don't have anyone to back me like you do.]

(He's saying how he doesn't like to show his face while on missions, unlike 'someone')

Kwon Taek Joo gritted his teeth and made a sarcastic comment. Zhenya looked at him and quietly straightened his shoulders, his expression also seemed to become more arrogant. It's obvious that this bastard has no learning ability.

[That's not a compliment, kid. Shouldn't you know that by now?]

[You're still so shy, Kwon Teak Joo.]

[..Haa.. It's because of you that I'm embarrassed on your behalf, really.]

[I didn't expect you to think so much about my dignity.]

His head was pounding. This was something that often happened when he talked to Zhenya. Compared to continuing the dialogue, it's better to give up.

Kwon Taek Joo took a deep breath and held out his hand.

[What are you talking about? Quickly give me that.]

However, Zhenya did not introduce the microchip lightly. He just turned it around as if to show off.

[Taek Joo, I never said I would give this to you.]

[What? You don't need it anyway.]

[That's true, but now that it's in your hands, it's up to you to use anyway.]

It must have been quite a hefty price. A terrifying sigh came out.

[Is there gold on that thing of yours? As if he can give up a lot to be satisfied.]

[Ah? Is it because of that that you have been sulking all this time?]

[Who.!]

[You're so naive. That woman stole 400 billion from the dictators' slush fund. She would die if caught, but she still had the audacity to do so. Could such a woman be so loose as to let her guard down with a dealer she had only met for a few days? If you hadn't intervened, I would be dismembered in her bed right now. Who sent him, what is the purpose of approaching, she will try to use her body to ask for the truth. A woman only has money, but that doesn't mean she can't use beauty tricks.]

When Choi Yeon Hwa suddenly seduced 'Philip', Kwon Taek Joo became suspicious. Everyone's preferences are different, but 'Philip' is not a very sexually attractive man. Choi Yeon Hwa said she likes a gentle man. The problem was that he didn't know if it was real, because he hadn't shown anything like that before.

After all, had she always been suspicious of 'Philip'? Kwon Taek Joo did not know that she had planned a private meeting with the purpose of confirming his identity.

While he was organizing his thoughts, Zhenya added.

[If it were you, it would be a different story.]

[What do you mean?]

[Now seems like the right time to unleash my beauty plan.]

He frowned at the ominous omen. Zhenya seemed to enjoy Kwon Taek Joo's reaction and smiled slightly as he took a sip of whiskey.

Just then, Zhenya took something from a nearby drawer and threw it at Kwon Taek Joo. It's a small shopping bag. Part of the inside protrudes from an overturned shopping bag. At first glance, it resembles a bow.

[..What do you want me to do with this?]

Kwon Taek Joo looked at Zhenya with suspicious eyes. The corner of his mouth drew a long arc.

[Put it on.]

—

"Ha, this crazy guy..”

Kwon Taek Joo sighed as he put on the clothes he received from Zhenya. No, it was absurd to call it "clothes". The black pants were completely tight on the lower body, with a zipper running along the crotch, and the shirt only had a bow and cuffs. Looking in the mirror, he soon believed he would be

the exclusive performer of the Chippendale Show. If it's like this, taking it all off will probably be less embarrassing.

Kwon Taek Joo checked his face in the mirror and sighed as if the ground was about to collapse. The feeling of his pants rubbing against his bare skin was strange. Wearing a shirt like you're not wearing it makes you feel like you can't wait to show off your breasts. How did that bastard's taste come to be like that? He was reluctantly looking at himself in the mirror when from outside, Zhenya urged him to come out. Kwon Taek Joo touched the mirror and then went out.

Being embarrassed in this situation will only make Zhenya happy. He regained his composure before leaving the room and going to the living room. The guy lying on the sofa grinned when he saw Kwon Taek Joo.

[Look. Is that suitable?]

Zhenya’s body, which had been leaning completely backwards, now leaned forward. The cloak hanged loosely. He didn’t know if it's because he just took a shower, but his skin became smoother and his ivory hair looked thicker because of the humidity. The eyes also became more transparent and rolled slowly and glanced at Kwon Taek Joo. His persistent gaze licked every corner of his body down to the invisible parts. Kwon Taek Joo has known this guy before, but not with such a perverted, beautiful face.

[Come here.]

After completing the overall feeling, Zhenya waved his hand. The arrogant attitude was annoying but Kwon Taek Joo had no other choice, he just bowed down dejectedly and walked forward.

He came and stood in front of Zhenya. He reached out and grabbed the back of Kwon Taek Joo's thighs. Long, slender fingers pressed firmly into his firm skin. The pants were pulled up and the genitals inside were also tightened. Kwon Taek Joo also unconsciously put strength into his stomach. Zhenya raised the corner of his mouth as if he also felt that slight change.

Disagreeing with that attitude, Kwon Taek Joo took the initiative first. He placed his knee between Zhenya's spread legs and used one hand to grab the back of the sofa Zhenya was leaning on. As the distance grew closer, Zhenya looked up at him with a satisfied expression. Kwon Taek Joo looked into Zhenya's eyes and gently touched his ear and silently rubbed the entire ear as if massaging it. Zhenya breathed slowly, his long eyelashes fluttering slightly. Kwon Taek Joo suddenly felt a strange sense of accomplishment when seeing Zhenya in such a happy and enjoying mood. It seemed like he had properly tamed someone who was no different from a wild animal.

He lifted Zhenya's chin who was looking at him passionately and kissed him. The corners of Zhenya's mouth twitched. When he stuck out his tongue to lick his upper lip, Zhenya's hands grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's round butt. He silently pursed his upper lip and let it go, then suddenly tilted his head and pushed his tongue in. As if he had been waiting, Zhenya pulled Kwon Taek Joo's body back and bit his tongue. Persistent red tongue mixed with touch and sound. Thump, chug...

Zhenya's hand rubbed his butt and then gradually moved up his back, each place his fingertips touched seemed to have a light electric current running across it. Kwon Taek Joo's back trembled. Zhenya smiled more earnestly.

There was numbness between his legs as Zhenya's hand groped his straight spine. Kwon Taek Joo held the hand that was tickling his back and held it tightly. The lips that were tightly attached to each other parted.

Zhenya raised his head and kissed him again, he bit Kwon Taek Joo's lower lip and stretched it out with his tongue. Even if he grabbed Zhenya's shoulder to push him away, it would have no effect, Kwon Taek Joo responded for a moment and then turned his head. Zhenya licked his glossy lips with a delicious expression.

[It's a pity to watch striptease alone.]

[Weird thing. If not me, who would want to see this?]

[Self-esteem is lower than expected. Or do you pretend not to know?]

Zhenya smiled and pulled Kwon Taek Joo a little more. Then while caressing his shoulder blades, Zhenya gently rubbed the tip of her nose against his smooth nipple. Kwon Taek Joo's eyes narrowed slightly at the strange feeling. The unstimulated flesh is pressed down and rubbed and then crushed without countermeasures according to the guy's movements. Feelings that have been forgotten for a while return and stimulate faster between the legs.

[Look at this. If you don't do it regularly, it won't rise anymore. You don't even do it yourself? You neglect it too much.]

Zhenya brushed the tip of his nose and lips as if he were biting them, then suddenly raised his head and buried himself deep into Kwon Taek Joo's neck. Zhenya bit his neck and sucked on the thin skin there while continuously kneading the elastic buttocks with both hands. Kwon Taek Joo's body, which was originally standing upright, collapsed little by little under the outpouring of stimulation.

He tried to separate himself from Zhenya, who was nibbling on his neck. He seemed dissatisfied with Kwon Taek Joo, who kept stepping on the brakes. Then, as if to show his temper, he bit Kwon Taek Joo's chin.

[Uh. Choi Yeon Hwa... Is it true that she is safe?]

[Did you get shot in the eye without me? Why are you so haunted by that woman's life and death?]

[Zhenya. Is it true that she is still alive?]

[Maybe so.]

Zhenya said he hadn't touched a single finger and continued. This time, he licked Kwon Taek Joo's ear lobe and stuck his tongue into Kwon Taek Joo's ear, his middle finger rhythmically traced the butt bone and thrust deep inside. Kwon Taek Joo groaned and reached back and grabbed his wrist. He grabbed Zhenya by the back of his neck and pulled it away from him. Obstructed once again, Zhenya sighed.

[Taek Joo, is it not foreplay but sexual torture?]

[You must check the product condition. How did you get that information without touching Choi Yeon Hwa?]

(Kill her??)

[That side already knows who you are.]

[No wonder you go around asking to be identified like that.]

Kwon Taek Joo laughed sarcastically.

[Noise is no good, so I proposed a deal. I know what she needs most right now. If you can ensure that, it will be easier later.]

[You gave Choi Yeon Hwa a family tattoo?]

[Well, that's kind of it.]

[Did you have such a peace negotiation?]

[Taek Joo, I don't know how much you misunderstood me, but so far the transaction has been processed without any problems.]

Of course Zhenya often calls himself a 'skilful businessman'. Even when Kwon Taek Joo went looking for Anastasia, he had a flexible and tactful conversation with the VIPs and Sergei who attended the party. Just looking at his mother alone at home, the communication still went quite well. However, Kwon Taek Joo could not believe it with certainty because of Zhenya's unpredictable nature.

Looking at the unreliable expression, Zhenya sighed and said [I have no trust.] His eyebrows also dropped as if he was seriously hurt. How obnoxious.

(He being a baby, so funny to read hahah)

Kwon Taek Joo lifted the hem of Zhenya's robe and grabbed the erect penis inside the robe.

[You're still more focused here than talking to me so I can't believe it.]

[It seems like you don't know? It's been a long time.]

He kissed Zhenya a little and then stood up and knelt down. The huge mass of muscle clenched in Kwon Taek Joo's hand trembled. Zhenya also gently rubbed his body against Kwon Taek Joo's inner thighs. He was getting ready to take off his pants.

Kwon Taek Joo's face suddenly became alert, remembering Zhenya's timely presence at the casino. Once he starts, he won't have a chance to talk properly anymore, so before that, Kwon Taek Joo must definitely ask.

[How did you find out that the dealer was me? Hacking and eavesdropping weren't enough so you developed a mind reader?]

[it's impossible not to notice.]

[So what? I was in disguise and Philip's colleagues were completely unrecognizable.]

[I recognize you, Kwon Taek Joo, you are not Philip.]

(A little cute, not going to lie.)

He still couldn't get used to Zhenya achieving his goal so quickly. Kwon Taek Joo's face showed disapproval. Zhenya raised her head and pressed her lips to his. The lips pressed tightly like a seal and then gently parted. His eyes were also softer than usual at that time.

[That's a piece of cake for me.]

After all, this kid is very skilled at manipulating people. Kwon Taek Joo silently looked down at Zhenya and then suddenly grabbed his face. Zhenya blankly looked at Kwon Taek Joo with a relaxed face. A pure desire did not suit him, only a deep blue passion towards him reflected in those eyes. Now Kwon Taek Joo wondered if he was crazy to read those things from Zhenya.

He sighed in despair and then lowered his head to kiss Zhenya on the lips. Looking satisfied, Zhenya hugged Kwon Taek Joo's back tightly and responded to the kiss he led. Lips wrapped around lips and then rubbed together, each time they separated, the corner of his mouth slightly raised. If Zhenya had a tail, it would probably wag wildly.

Kwon Taek Joo gently sucked his lips and then rubbed his tongue against the protruding tongue. The moist and tender meat is rubbed and then blended together, both bitter and sweet. Soon, thick saliva formed in his mouth. He sucked his tongue that was bobbing between his lips, then tilted his head and inserted his tongue into Zhenya's mouth. He bowed his head moderately and did not hesitate to receive Kwon Taek Joo's tongue. Zhenya's sternum kept wiggling over and over as if it was very aroused.

Zhenya didn't wear anything after showering so static electricity continued to build up. As if enjoying that tingling stimulation, he traced the dry back of Kwon Taek Joo, who only focused on the kiss, slowly but clearly aroused. Even while kissing, Zhenya also made sweet moaning sounds. Every time he discovers the unusual image of this steel-like man, Kwon Taek Joo feels a strange joy.

A moment later, the lips parted. Their eyes met, red with lust. Warm but rapid breaths continued to blow against each other's necks. Zhenya gently closed his eyes and suddenly stuck out his tongue to lick Kwon Taek Joo's shiny lips. He grimaced with an annoyed face.

[It's because of you. One is to take the risk to tame it or just wait quietly.]

[Good dogs also need to be trained. You have to listen to me.]

[Then the owner must be responsible. From the looks of it, it looks like you’re ignoring me.]

This kid never gives up even a word. Just then, he heard a jig, and his zipper was unzipped. The hip bone was also helplessly exposed. Kwon Taek Joo's back suddenly trembled because of the cool air blowing on his body.

Zhenya only opens the zipper halfway. That wind caused his penis to start to become erect while it was still tucked tightly into his pants.

[You must have loosened it while bathing, right? It's quite soft.]

Zhenya groped around the hole with both hands and looked at Kwon Taek Joo as if to confirm.

[You have to be more humane than someone else. If you don't do anything, it'll probably bleed out.]

Zhenya smirked then bowed his head and bit Kwon Taek Joo's chest then let go. At that moment, the tip of his chin gently pressed Kwon Taek Joo's nipple, causing him to suddenly tighten his chest. Pretending not to know, Zhenya continuously bit the surrounding flesh until leaving teeth marks, then used his thumb to gently rub the other nipple and squeeze gently. Kwon Taek Joo's upper body tilted forward in response to unexpected stimuli. The soft, plump breasts rushed in as if they wanted to crush the sharp bridge of her nose. Zhenya happily opened his mouth and sucked the small piece of meat he had been craving for so long. Hot breath along with saliva and the feeling of a soft mouth rushed in at the same time. When Zhenya began to gently suck on the nipple, his eyebrows furrowed.

"Hmmm..”

Zhenya held Kwon Taek Joo's hand that was pushing his shoulder, and continued to persistently suck on the small piece of meat. He bit and sucked so hard that the skin around the nipple quickly turned red. Zhenya used his tongue to swipe over the nipple and then rolled it, making it hard. It becomes more sensitive to stimulation, and the hot breath also spreads a strange feeling.

Kwon Taek Joo's breathing became clearly rough. Zhenya hugged him tighter as he continued to try to push him away, saliva rubbing against the slippery flesh.

[Ugh, Uhmmm...]

[What's up? I like it. Your waist is shaking.]

Where Zhenya touched, Kwon Taek Joo's flesh trembled uncontrollably. Penis stuck in pants, tight and stiff. He wanted to touch it with his own hands, but he couldn't move because Zhenya was wrapped around his arms and body.

Zhenya grabbed Kwon Taek Joo and opened his mouth wide, taking a bite of his chest, sucking on his plump skin and then moving his tongue to play with his nipples. A newborn baby starved for many days probably wouldn't be that greedy.

(HAHA, I too would be that greedy.. please tell me i'm not the only one)

Not just this time. Zhenya's foreplay tends to focus on his chest. Kwon Taek Joo himself also enjoys this stimulation, but sometimes he wonders if this is the lack of lust of his childhood manifested.

As he lost his thoughts, Zhenya's mouth moved away. Her two red nipples glistened as if covered with syrup. Zhenya did not hesitate to use his thumb to massage the smooth flesh, then turned his head to suck on the large breast opposite

[Hm..]

Kwon Taek Joo's tightly held hand stretched out and then clenched into a fist. Every time Zhenya sucked hard on his nipple, it felt like something was being sucked out of her body. His upper body kept tilting forward and the heat from his chest pooled down between his legs. Kwon Taek Joo continued to struggle with the unbearable pleasure, his thighs rubbing against Zhenya's rock-like thighs, continuing to stimulate his penis.

Zhenya bit as if to stamp his chest, as if it were a blessing if it didn't bleed.

While Kwon Taek Joo was still moaning, Zhenya tore off the gel and inserted it into the small hole. Before feeling the difference, the gel suddenly gushed out. Kwon Taek Joo was startled, his shoulders trembled. At that time, Zhenya nibbled on Kwon Taek Joo's left breast and squeezed out a lot of gel. The gel box that should have been new quickly dried up and was thrown to the floor and deformed to the point where its original shape was unrecognizable.

Zhenya poked at the hole and inserted his finger into it. Kwon Taek Joo's spine stiffened with a clear feeling of compression. He rubbed the outer circle while expanding the inner wall. Kwon Taek Joo's upper body leaned back and trembled, the knees supporting the body also wobbled.

Zhenya kissed Kwon Taek Joo's collarbone and nape as he inserted another finger to loosen it. He spread two fingers wide and wiggled them around, then squeezed and pressed the warm inside to stimulate it. Whenever that happens, Kwon Taek Joo's abdominal muscles contract.

[Huh, ha ha..]

[I think your body is resilient, but it's nothing compared to this.]

[Suddenly, ugh..hm..]

[Even if it was just a day or two later, it was as if no one had ever touched it. It's a hassle to have to loosen it every day. I think I tried really hard with it before but it's still too tight inside.]

[...Shut up...ugh..]

[You do it on purpose, right? Every time you tense up, my finger will be sucked in deeper.]

Zhenya babbled and stretched out his fingers. Although it was nothing compared to Zhenya's penis, three fingers were enough to make Kwon Taek Joo struggle. He was paralyzed from the bottom up immediately. Every time he went inside the hole and rubbed it, the gel filled inside would come out. The entire genital area cannot stand the stimulation and turns red.

Zhenya still calmly put his heart into the small hole and groped it. The long finger is inserted very deeply, so the excitement is maximized. Kwon Taek Joo felt uncomfortable as if he wanted to push Zhenya's hand away, his stomach was tight and felt like it was full. [Stop it,]he said, then grabbed Zhenya's hair. His soft ivory hair easily slipped through his fingers.

The guy sucked on the nipple and made a clicking sound. The strong suction force causes the soft meat to be continuously sucked up and then bounce up again. His chest was bitten but the pleasure flowed between his legs. Kwon Taek Joo's penis was under pressure like it was about to explode.

He was about to quickly open the zipper, but Zhenya grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's wrist.

[Hmm, let go, kid.]

[I'm so impatient. Are you that needy?]

[You're the one who's stimulating me.]

[Taek Joo, I know you like it rougher, but...]

Suddenly, Zhenya grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's waist and gently lifted him up. The completely unpredictable situation took his body by surprise. Kwon Taek Joo's face was stunned for a moment and then quickly grimaced as Zhenya's meat entered the hole.

[You have to think about my position when I hear you complaining all the time.]

[Uh... uh..]

Even though he just sat down gently, Kwon Taek Joo's eyes still frowned. His mouth automatically closed and his breathing stopped. His hands put all his strength into Zhenya's shoulders.

Zhenya was immersed in pleasure when half of his glans entered. He exhaled a hot breath and pressed his lips to Kwon Taek Joo's neck, whose skin was covered in goosebumps.

[I'm the one who bribed you.]

Zhenya mumbled into Kwon Taek Joo's neck. He clenched his molars and pretended to be strong until the end and grabbed his coat as if he wanted to tear it off

Zhenya raised the corner of his mouth and without hesitation raised his lower body. The hole that was trying to bite the head of the penis suddenly opened and with difficulty swallowed the huge piece of meat. Kwon Taek Joo's cheeks became as hard as stone from stress.

[Ah... bastard..]

[I told you so.]

Zhenya scolded Kwon Taek Joo for swearing while kissing his ear. Kwon Taek Joo pulled the string on Zhenya's cloak and gasped. If he kept that face, he would suffocate or the blood vessels in his head would explode. Kwon Taek Joo let out a breath and relaxed. The penis stuck underneath scraped the inside and slid in more than halfway. His lower abdomen quickly tensed and bulged out.

"Ha ha, um..."

Why can't he get used to putting it in? Kwon Taek Joo unconsciously groaned and buried his head in Zhenya's neck. The strong smell of her body made his head dizzy. His body seemed to have memorized the sensations engraved during each time he made love to Zhenya. Even though it hasn't quite started yet, the spot that's always been stimulated is already heating up. Unable to bear that feeling, Kwon Taek Joo unconsciously knelt down. The hole holding Zhenya's penis also shrunk. The veins were clearly visible on Zhenya's smooth forehead, and the corners of his mouth were slightly raised.

[Haa... Taek Joo, are you planning to kill me?]

[ugh.., hmm.., ugh, stop talking.]

He gritted his teeth and said to Zhenya. In an instant, his seemingly floating body fell straight down, the mass of Zhenya's flesh that was vaguely covered was immediately pushed into its roots. Kwon Taek Joo's body weight moved and crushed Zhenya's lower body. A strong collision sound came but. Kwon Taek Joo helplessly tilted his head at the penetrating feeling running down his spine and rising to his brain.

"Ha...uh..."

He gritted his molars and swallowed down the groan that was about to explode, strength put into his fingertips gripping Zhenya's shoulder tightly. If it were a normal man, his collarbone would have been broken. The tight inner wall twisted like a spasm, squeezing the genitals, making Zhenya's always relaxed face frown slightly at the tightness. The mass of flesh trembled like a living fish inside him stirring up sensation, texture and even body temperature. Kwon Taek Joo's body has been trained for a long time but accepting this name is still too much.

Zhenya calmly touched Kwon Taek Joo's hole that was twitching like a child and buried her head in his chest. His smooth bronze skin quickly became mottled with teeth marks. Kwon Taek Joo trembled and desperately waited for the storm to come. As if he was a little impatient, he hastily tightened his grip on Zhenya's penis.

Zhenya laughed like the sound of the wind blowing.

5.4 Side Story

[I know]

Zhenya started thrusting into Kwon Taek Joo's lower body with a low, cooling voice. He tried to restrain his body but his whole body kept shaking because he was suppressed by an excessive force. His body bounced up and then fell down, swallowing Zhenya's muscles, expanding the hole and clawing at the tight inside.

Kwon Taek Joo tried to run away

instinctively, but Zhenya tightly grabbed his waist as he tried to escape and quickly rushed downwards. His firm thighs and round butt rubbing against Zhenya made him even more eager. Screaming moans erupted from the strong thrusts as if left alone, Kwon Taek Joo's navel would be punctured.

The little hole was sucking on Zhenya's penis with unbearable difficulty. The inside was also constantly being hit by the foreskin like a rock.

Kwon Taek Joo bent down and quickly rolled up Zhenya's cloak and grabbed it tightly, he raised his knees and held Zhenya's thighs tightly to stop the movements.

[Hey, ugh, wait.]

Zhenya appeared dissatisfied. The blue eyes looking at Kwon Taek Joo became sharp like an animal that had just smiled blood and was ready to hunt. Looking into the eyes of the man consumed by desire, it was nothing short of a miracle that he stopped.

[I think this is also part of the quest. Taek Joo, what I want is in your hands.]

"Ahh, ah..."

Zhenya rubbed Kwon Taek Joo's nipples and pulled them all the way up. His pelvis tingled happily, he couldn't take it anymore and rubbed Zhenya gently. Taking advantage of that gap, Zhenya lifted his lower body that was momentarily frozen. As Kwon Taek Joo grunted and collapsed under repeated insertions, Zhenya placed her lips around his chin and neck and continued to thrust.

Kwon Taek Joo couldn't hold back any longer and reached between his legs. He hastily tried to open the zipper that was blocking his way, but every time Zhenya stabbed him hard under his body as if on purpose, so his repeated attempts were in vain. Then he kissed Kwon Taek Joo, who was angry and panting. He uncomfortably grabbed Zhenya's hair and pushed his tongue between his naturally parted lips. Two tongues merged together, the inside of the mouth quickly became sweet.

Only then did the zipper in Zhenya's hand fully open. Kwon Taek Joo's penis, which was already stretched from the inside, rushed out as if it were bouncing. Zhenya pulled it with his fingers and pressed it against his stomach. Kwon Taek Joo's body shuddered every time his butt was poked and his penis rubbed against Zhenya's abs. A feeling of excitement rose up to the point that his hair stood up, his eyes, ears, nape and even shoulders turned red. Zhenya's stomach was covered in clear liquid.

For a moment, the only thing left in the living room was the sound of the two people breathing heavily and pounding skin rubbing against each other.

[Ha.. ha.. Taek Joo...]

[Oh! Oh! ah, sss, hauughss, ahh...]

Kwon Taek Joo trembled constantly, gently rubbing her bottom and then gently turning her back to seek stimulation to the desired place. Zhenya placed Kwon Taek Joo's arm behind his shoulder and hugged him tightly until their shoulders touched each other.

[You won. Who's the one who keeps hitting the brakes?]

Teasing mixed with sweet laughter. Zhenya placed his lips on Kwon Taek Joo's shoulder and then moaned softly "hm...". Kwon Taek Joo bowed his head as if to prepare for what was about to happen, his arms around Zhenya's neck also tensed.

The next moment, Zhenya rotated around below and thrust hard inside. For a moment, Kwon Taek Joo trembled as if he was about to faint.

Even though his glans only touched a certain spot, his whole body trembled and his eyes were wet as if he were about to cry. Zhenya's entire body tensed up as his penis was bitten fiercely, and his lungs tightened to the point of making it difficult to breathe.

[Here? Do you like it?]

Kwon Taek Joo didn't answer but just hugged Zhenya more desperately. Without any hesitation, he roughly stuffed the huge meat that was being sucked tightly. Kwon Taek Joo seemed to be crushed and collapsed with all four limbs dangling.

"A, aa! uh, ah! ugh, ha, uh, uh, ha!"

He didn't know what to do with that intense stimulation, his lips were bitten by Zhenya with his teeth and repeatedly drew long arcs. The desire for the flesh increased more and more as if it were painful, the wrinkles in the middle of his forehead did not have time to relax, the heat from the lower part of his body seemed to melt his brain. Even so, Kwon Taek Joo still wanted more.

(MORE??)

Zhenya suddenly grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's thigh and stood up. He quickly grabbed onto Zhenya as his body slid due to gravity, the insertion becoming deeper.

"Ah, ah...uh!"

Kwon Taek Joo groaned. He felt that Zhenya's penis had penetrated all the way to his ribs. The breath he couldn't exhale or swallow was stuck in his throat and he kept trembling. Kwon Taek Joo scratched his back so Zhenya would drop him.

But regardless, Zhenya continued walking somewhere while kissing Kwon Taek Joo's ear and face. With each step, the guy's hot iron thrust harder and harder, making him feel like he was about to die.

Zhenya pushed Kwon Taek Joo into some wall. He stabilized him between the hard wall and himself. Kwon Taek Joo's face contorted in both pain and pleasure, his eyes frowning at Zhenya as if he were annoyed. Zhenya grinned and stuck out her tongue to lick his sweaty cheeks for a long time.

[Don't endure it, just moan freely.]

Zhenya whispered softly. But to Kwon Taek Joo, those words were like a declaration of war, an ominous omen ahead.

Damn it, right after that, Zhenya started moving his lower body. He stretched his back backwards then slammed downwards and dug deep into the hole. It felt like his insides were being ripped apart. Kwon Taek Joo didn't even have time to moan, his mouth was tightly closed, there was only the deafening sound of flesh slapping together, the side of his inner thigh colliding with Zhenya's thigh continuously hurt like he was being beaten. hit. The gel at the intersection of the body turns white due to frequent friction and then stretches into strong strings like a spider web along the skin.

[ugh, ah...]

The mass of flesh coming in and out was about to explode as if it wanted to poke a hole out of his stomach. Zhenya hugged Kwon Taek Joo tightly to keep him from falling and kept moving. When Zhenya squeezed his glans, Kwon Taek Joo couldn't stand it and was startled.

"hmmm..!"

[I told you not to endure it.]

The white bubble that formed around the hole burst and reappeared. His body kept being lifted up and then falling helplessly back down, the penetration only getting deeper and deeper. Kwon Taek Joo had no choice but to hug Zhenya and endure that terrible pleasure. Sandwiched between the wall and Zhenya, there was nowhere for him to run anymore.

Zhenya repeatedly poked the same spot and then rubbed vigorously. His fingertips stood up at the feeling of being crushed by the sensitive area being stimulated. It was so strong that even his toes felt a burning sensation.

Not long after. Kwon Taek Joo let out an uncomfortable groan.

"Uh, ha, ha..."

His body trembled continuously. His penis, rubbing continuously against Zhenya's abs, exploded white. The powerful surge of semen not only shot up Zhenya's broad chest muscles, but also shot hard up to his chin. Both the genitals and the entire pelvis are numb. An unconscious groan came out.

"Aw, oops... fuck...

His whole body trembled pitifully, Kwon Taek Joo hugged Zhenya tightly without moving. Zhenya buried her face in his dark hair and carried him to a nearby bedroom.

The mass of meat was stuffed so tightly inside that it couldn't slip out even if Zhenya walked, but on the contrary, his slight movements also stimulated the inside of his stomach, causing pleasure to wriggle everywhere.

In the bedroom there is a bed large enough for four adults to lie around. Zhenya put Kwon Taek Joo down and climbed into bed. The giant, over 2 meters tall, exerted enormous pressure on his entire body. Even when Kwon Teak Joo was crushed by a rock, it didn't seem that heavy.

"Ahh..ah.."

Zhenya lifted his knees up as if to touch his chest, and his lungs were compressed, making his breathing unstable. In the blink of an eye, Kwon Teak Joo's entire face turned red. He choked out a sigh, but Zhenya pretended not to hear. He kissed Kwon Taek Joo's lips without hesitation. When he tried to protest in anger, Zhenya twisted his head and stuck his tongue into his half-closed lips. The hot wet tongue rushed in and sucked Kwon Taek Joo's tongue. Even his exploding breath was swallowed without a trace remaining.

Meanwhile, Zhenya's flesh column that had been gently pierced underneath began to move. It both slowly penetrated deep inside and swirled strongly. Kwon Taek Joo closed his eyes tightly and sighed.

[How much longer will it take?l

"Ah.. ha..."

[This size can be shaped.]

Zhenya muttered each syllable slowly while emphasizing the bottom. He seemed to want to create a mold in the shape of his penis in someone else's stomach.

Zhenya stared at Kwon Taek Joo's sweaty face with unusually bright eyes while his lower body steadily dug deep and stirred inside him. If this continues. Kwon Taek Joo will suffocate and die.

(Zhenya is trying to burn Kwon Taek Joo’s face in his eyes and head)

[Ugh, stop joking around and get it over with quickly.]

He angrily gritted his teeth and arowled. In anger, Kwon Taek Joo grabbed Zhenya's cloak as if pulling at the collar. He laughed again like the sound of the wind blowing.

[You still don't know your situation and are really brave.]

Immediately afterwards, Zhenya pressed his chest against Kwon Taek Joo, almost crushing him completely. He was out of breath. Kwon Taek Joo tried to move his body to have time to breathe, but he was pressed so tightly that he could not move. The guy fixed Kwon Taek Joo that way and moved his lower body and thrust deep inside. His thigh was hit hard. A burning sensation rose from the helplessly expanding hole.

The curses and moans that came out of Kwon Taek Joo's mouth were mixed, but Zhenya didn't pay attention and just thrust harder. At the place where the penis hits, the feeling of numbness condenses and quickly spreads to the whole body. Kwon Taek Joo's eyes flashed, his brain felt like it was boiling. The penis, which has become smaller after ejaculation, now regains energy and stretches to stand up. He wanted to touch it to reduce the heat accumulated there, but was suppressed by Zhenya.

He angrily bit Zhenya's neck. For a moment, he squirmed and then suddenly stopped. The angry hole twitched and tightened on the guy's flesh, Kwon Taek Joo's limbs also trembled.

Suddenly Kwon Taek Joo's body flipped over. At that moment, the blood on Zhenya's face seemed to be drained, it seemed like the thin thread of reason had also been severed. [Wait.] he tried to stop Zhenya. but Zhenya grabbed the back of Kwon Taek Joo's neck and pushed him down. He also grabbed the arms that were trying to resist and tied them tightly above his head. Zhenya then without hesitation lifted up the half-attached penis. The blows were so strong that Kwon Taek Joo's buttocks were pushed up. The deep and merciless thrust made his body feel like it wanted to split in half

[ah! ah! ahhhh! ugh, ah! ah Hey, ha!]

He shook his head and twisted his body but couldn't get free. Zhenya completely disregarded Kwon Taek Joo and continued to act persistently. It seemed like his insides had been crushed so much that

they became sticky, sticking tightly to the penis that was moving in and out of the small hole. As if that alone wasn't enough, Zhenya grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's ass and spread them open.

His vision shook chaotically with the rough thrusting, saliva running down his chin soaking the pillow.

"Ahhh, uhm, ah... ahhhhhh... ahh...assss!"

[Uhm, uhhh, ahaahh, haaaa... Taek Joo.]

[Uh, hey, ah, hey, Yevgeny...]

Kwon Taek Joo placed his wet forehead on Zhenya's arm holding his wrist. Zhenya's penis throbbed and stopped in a call that was nothing more than a plea. The pain and pleasure that poured down like pouring rain also temporarily subsided. The restless trembling of his body became quiet and the mild dizziness returned. Kwon Taek Joo was barely breathing and the other guy's item, which had been buried deep in his stomach, exploded. The slimy semen spurted out hotly inside him. Kwon Taek Joo's stomach was tense.

Zhenya slowly and gently caressed Kwon Taek Joo's belly. He placed his body completely on his back and rubbed his face into his black hair.

[Taek Joo.]

The loving call seemed to hold me back. The person who had just tore him apart as if wanting to kill him was enjoying the ultimate pleasure inside him. Kwon Taek Joo sighed and stroked Zhenya's hair helplessly.

Zhenya obediently took that hand and lowered his lips to Kwon Taek Joo's neck. He took a deep breath, enjoying the smell of his body. Even though he was such a monster, when Zhenya acted like a bia puppy like now, Kwon Taek Joo's mind suddenly became weak and defenseless. Someone has to take a step back. If he continues to watch over this guy. he probably won't be able to live according to his life's goal anymore.

—

When he opened his eves, Kwon Taek Joo had been moved to another bedroom. It is unknown when and how he moved. Because the bed sheet was wet, it seemed like he couldn't sleep there last night. What time is it? Kwon Taek Joo couldn't even tell if it was night or day because of the blackout curtains.

He added strength to his drooping eyelids. His body is relatively light. Zhenya was nowhere to be seen. He usually wakes up first in the morning after completely tearing and crushing you. Is Zhenya taking a bath?

Kwon Taek Joo exhaled tiredly. Sometimes Zhenya's stamina is scary. Kwon Taek Joo himself always receives exceptional marks in all fitness and training assessments, but he cannot be compared to Zhenya. You couldn't even do it at his age to justify it just because Zhenya was young.

Kwon Taek Joo lay down for a while then stood up on his own. His head, which had been dizzy all night, was now completely blank. His whole body felt numb as if it were swollen.

Kwon Taek Joo looked down at his body. There were speckled handprints and tooth marks everywhere the eye could see, and even the slightest movement sent screaming pain through all four limbs. It was as if he had been beaten. The problem was that his body was so used to the combined strength exercises whenever he rolled with Zhenya.

"Ah... Monster"

The inside of his ass was still burning. While Kwon Taek Joo fell asleep, Zhenya was clearly enjoying himself again. Come to think of it, he was rarely awake when he made love to Zhenya. Until now, he has lived a life with no problems regarding nutritional supplements or physical supplements. Even during regular checkups and health checks, his physical condition is always above average. But Kwon Taek Joo himself is not Zhenya's opponent. If you have a young lover, is everything like this? No, no matter how you look at it, this kid is not normal.

Kwon Taek Joo arabbed his waist and walked out to the living room. The strange feeling of his thighs rubbing against each other with every step made him limp. He needed to take a shower but right now his legs were shaking and it was difficult to stand. Kwon Taek Joo tried to get a bottle of water and went to the terrace.

As soon as I opened the door, a cool breeze blew in. The noise blocked by the door also spilled in colorfully. It's night outside again. After all, how long did he have to make love and how long did he faint? Kwon Taek Joo gasped.

The flashy lights and signs found only in Las Vegas distracted him. He quenched his thirst and then indifferently looked down at the somewhat ecstatic scene below. Only then did Kwon Taek Joo feel like his sluggish head regained consciousness.

How long has it been? He felt a familiar presence behind him, and Zhenya appeared. He smells good. It looked like Zhenya had just finished showering. Kwon Taek Joo turned his head and stared at the guy who seemed sober. The guy raised his eyebrows as if he didn't understand.

[Why are you dissatisfied again?]

[Are you human?]

[I don't understand what you're saying.]

[If you go to the hospital like this, you'll have to be treated for 3 weeks, kid.]

He gritted his teeth. Zhenya leisurely crossed his arms and glanced at Kwon Taek Joo's body. Seeing his chest full of bite marks, he smiled.

[Are there any hospitals that specialize in men's breasts?]

Without any expression of apology other than a vulgar joke, Kwon Taek Joo threw a cushion nearby. Zhenya easily dodged and shrugged.

[It's all your own doing.]

[Did I tell you to attack? I told you more than 10 times to stop, you brat.]

[Start by leaving your lover for more than 10 days. Doesn't that mean you'll accept this?]

Zhenya was as usual, blaming others and being shameless. But the problem is that being with him as a lover and being apart for more than 10 days because of work are both true. Kwon Taek Joo has nothing to refute.

Even after Zhenya followed him to Korea. Kwon Taek Joo's daily life did not change much. Once a task is assigned, another task is assigned. This is because the relationship with North Korea has not changed even though the government has changed and the policy towards North Korea has changed. As long as North Korea does not give up its nuclear weapons, the current tension has no choice but to continue.

Even though it is. When there's no one to play with, he should focus on his work, right? Kwon Taek Joo wondered if this was something to complain about when Zhenya chased him all the way to where he worked like this. I have never seen a guy with the title of Russian ambassador go on a diplomatic mission. If he's bored, he can go to Ajinoki Island alone, but Zhenya won't accept it even if he dies.

[Don't you know I live like this? That's it, why are you focusing on such strange things...]

He scratched his head awkwardly. In the past and now, Kwon Taek Joo himself was just doing his job, but suddenly he had a strange feeling of guilt. Every time we quarrel for the same reason, he felt a bit frustrated.

[I know. In fact, he was too obsessed with sacrificing his body. You said you had to run and roll that way to survive, right? That's why I'm compatible with you.]

Just have to give in. With that statement, Zhenya will continue to do so in the future, not to mention self-criticism.

Kwon Taek Joo shook his head as if he didn't want to talk anymore, then he stood up and walked next to Zhenya.

[I'll take a shower.]

[Is it okay to not check this right away?]

Zhenya held up the microchip delivered from Choi Yeon Hwa. Kwon Taek Joo has not been able to check any data in there. If you receive the wrong information, this mission is not over yet.

Kwon Taek Joo hesitated, he ignored his face and turned back to Zhenya. He snatched the chip and plugged it into the phone. Zhenya rubbed his face into Kwon Taek Joo's black hair until the data was displayed on the screen. He used both hands to massage Kwon Taek Joo's chest and abdomen annoyingly. Zhenya seems to have learned properly that if you give Kwon Taek Joo what he wants then he will become obedient for a bit.

Not long after, many files appeared on the screen. He opened one of them at random. Bank names, accounts, passwords and deposits for each European country have been listed. They all have different names, so it seems like they are accounts that borrow names to fund slush funds.

Then Kwon Taek Joo also checked other files. It's a folder that contains multiple ledgers. It is like a kind of bill of sale. The document also states when and from whom the funding was received, how the money was laundered and what the purpose of the funding was.

Kwon Taek Joo searches for Korean social groups that appear in intelligence information. Then, relevant documents are selected. Funding is not a one-time deal. The amount of money is also very significant. Their aim seems to be to get North Korea to participate in the general election in South Korea. They still want to do something like this, even though times have changed but the quality of work in the political world remains the same.

It was data that Kwon Taek Joo himself struggled to obtain but Zhenya quickly achieved it in just a few hours. At times like these you have to say thank you, right? Kwon Taek Joo had no intention of competing with Zhenya, but he felt awkward. Can we say emptiness, or a feeling of helplessness? Zhenya's help was not very welcome.

[What's up? Is something wrong?]

[...Are not. I see everything is easy for you.]

[People just make easy things difficult.]

And the way of thinking is also self centered. Do you think everyone has as much money, power and inhumane force as you?

[What should I do? If you have a worthy lover, you should be proud.]

[You're so strange] Zhenya said then turned Kwon Taek Joo around. He lifted his chin and was about to kiss him. Kwon Taek Joo observed the face of the guy slowly approaching. Is it because those pale eyelashes are wet that they look so clear today?

Zhenya seems to know very well that his face is his strongest point and Kwon Taek Joo's weak point. He often looked at that face in bewilderment. Kwon Taek Joo looked at the guy close to his breath and suddenly pinched his cheek. The man's eyes, which were lowered, suddenly became round.

[...Taek Joo?]

[Do you want to hear my thanks? Then I have to leave it to you too. You're not doing this to make money, right?]

[It's okay to say thank you. Be proud of your patience for not blowing up NIS yet.]

I don't understand why those words don't sound like a joke. With resignation, Kwon Taek Joo said [Uhm] then pulled Zhenya's cheek. Zhenya's lower lip that was being gently pulled away bit into him. Kwon Taek Joo tilted his head back as he tried to suck on his upper lip. Zhenya did not hesitate to touch his lips again. This time, Kwon Taek Joo wanted to receive a gentle kiss but he instead bit his upper lip. When he used his tongue to lure Zhenya into a sweet kiss, that tongue also stubbornly continued to nibble. I don't know if he's planning to kiss me or bite me. Zhenya gave a silly smile.

[Are you planning on having dinner?]

[Uhm. Some kid made me exercise all night so I'm hungry.]

[Almost there.]

Kwon Taek Joo was about to ask what it was but Zhenya put his finger in his mouth. He gently pressed his tongue while touching his lips. Saliva flowed in his mouth and his constantly bullied tongue got tired and began to wrap around Zhenya's fingers. Only then did he pull out his finger and slide it up his cheek and place his lips on Kwon Taek Joo's panting lips. The twitching tongue was reflexively sucked into Zhenya's mouth with a choking sound.

Just then the doorbell rang. It seemed like someone had come, but Zhenya was still so immersed in the kiss that he didn't think about going out. Kwon Taek Joo signaled to stop while gently pulling him away, but instead, Zhenya just hugged Kwon Taek Joo tighter, his lungs seemed to be squeezed too. Kwon Taek Joo moaned for a long time while sucking his tongue and then he pushed Zhenya away.
[Okay.]

[...Ha, once this kid starts, he doesn't know how to end. Get out. Why do you say when something comes?]

He took a deep breath and cleared his throat, panting. Zhenya reluctantly opened the door with a dissatisfied look on his face. Kwon Taek Joo hears the sound of room service outside.

While waiting, he went to the nearby bathroom and took a shower first. He turned on the faucet without thinking much and was startled by the water flowing down. Because as soon as the water touches the body, all parts of the body tingle. Feeling his whole body becoming sensitive after just one day, Kwon Taek Joo looked down at his body, there wasn't a single part that hadn't been bitten or sucked by Zhenya. The skin is congested and bruised. The inside of the arms, chest, groin, hips and buttocks still have clear tooth marks. There were also faint fingerprints on the wrists and ankles. If someone saw him, they would think he had been fighting all day, not making love.

Kwon Taek Joo sighed deeply and combed his wet hair after taking a shower. Feeling a familiar feeling, he gently pulled back the hem of his shirt and examined his chest. The condition there is worse than anywhere else in the body. Especially the color of the nipple has changed to the point that fortunately it does not bleed. Moreover, it also stands up vertically, so if you wear a shirt, you will definitely be seen. A sharp pain throbbed even as he touched it carefully. At this rate, he wondered if Zhenya would grind her teeth against his chest.

Kwon Taek Joo clicked his tongue and took the tape and stuck it on both breasts. Before stepping out, he closed the front of his coat and tightened his belt. Because if Zhenya saw it then he wouldn't be able to guarantee his current situation.

When he exited the living room, covered plates were piled high on the table. At a glance, there are likely ten discs. Zhenya was drinking tea gracefully without a glance. Sitting with long legs crossed, tilting a bright cup of tea looks like a painting, very unsightly.

"..That noble bastard."

Kwon Taek Joo muttered to himself and tilted his head.

[Huh? What are you saying, Taek Joo?]

[It looks so delicious.]

(Cover up because Zhenya doesn’t know Korean, haha)

Kwon Taek Joo looked around then walked to the table. He opened each plate one by one and checked the menu. From the beginning he didn't expect much, but there really wasn't any Korean food. Steaks and pasta, steamed seafood, grilled vegetables, salads, sandwiches and soups. The only Asian dishes are Japanese bread and Chinese noodles. Just looking at it made his stomach growl even more.

[It's been 10 days since I've been able to eat anything properly.]

Kwon Taek Joo grumbled while chewing broccoli. The temporomandibular joint only performs continuous chewing movement like a machine. It is often said that each race and nation has its own unique body odor. Luckily, he had stayed away from Korean food for a while so Choi Yeon Hwa couldn't notice it from him. Kwon Taek Joo even went around wearing strong perfume. Even though the result was that he was just wasting his time.

Kwon Taek Joo cut the steak into bite-sized pieces and placed it on a fork with the salad. He stuffed it all into his mouth as if crushing it. His cheeks were puffed up as if he had eaten a large roll and his mouth was pursed without any inspiration.

How long has it been? The doorbell rang again. Is anyone else coming? Kwon Taek Joo glanced at Zhenya. The guy stood up from his seat without a word of explanation. Kwon Taek Joo looked after him, then put the meat and salad on his fork and stuffed it into his mouth. Just then the door opened and he heard him talking to someone. Judging from the conversation, it seemed like Zhenya had requested something.

Suddenly a familiar smell stimulated his senses. Kwon Taek Joo's jaw, which was moving forcibly, stopped for a moment. His eyes widened and he walked towards the door. No way. Zhenya walked in with a tray in his hand, placed on top of it was a white bowl and a plate covering it. At first glance, it seems to be a spicy Korean dish. For sure.

[...Where did that come from?]

[I talked to the restaurant. I wonder if many Koreans come here so they have.]

No, it's because I'm a VVIP that I turn nothing into something. Sarcasm welled up in my heart along with reason and instinct screaming at the same time. As if hypnotized, Kwon Taek Joo reached out his hand towards Zhenya as if he was asking for a hug. Zhenya smiled and obediently handed the tray to Kwon Taek Joo. He also quickly moved aside the plate of steak that was placed in front of Kwon Taek Joo.

Kwon Taek Joo carefully placed the tray down as if he were holding a child, he didn't want to spill even a drop of soup. He then looked at the state of the ramen and muttered in displeasure.

"Damn, there's as much water as the Han River. Don't they even look at the recipe?"

At first glance there was a lot of water, but he drank the broth first. Fat in the blood vessels seems to be washed away. Ramen is still just a fried dish. but Kwon Taek Joo feels much more comfortable. He slurped the soup from the noodles that were about to bloom again and enjoyed the refreshing feeling. Zhenya held his chin while watching and said that his hobby was useless.

There's clearly something Zhenya got wrong here. It is believed that Kwon Taek Joo likes ramen. Actually, I don't like ramen very much. He didn't hate it, but it was one of the dishes he didn't eat often in Korea. But the longer you stay abroad, the more Korean people crave food, like homesickness. Of course it wasn't unreasonable for Zhenya to make such a mistake since he kept his eyes on the ramen in front of him every time.

Kwon Taek Joo pushed the steak that had lost its owner towards Zhenya.

[Eat it.]

He mumbled with his mouth full of noodles Zhenya, who never ate anything others touched first, obediently picked up his fork and knife. Then, he carefully put the meat cut into bite-sized pieces into his mouth and chewed quietly. His cheeks weren't swollen, his lips were tightly pursed, neither opening nor moving much. And it took quite a while to finish eating that small piece of meat. Zhenya's movements were so graceful that it was as if he was acting out a scene from a movie. Strangely, it seemed that only the light on the side where Zhenya sat was the most special. Is there also a spotlight here? Kwon Taek Joo looked up at the ceiling.

The moment he looked at Zhenya again, he recognized that look and looked straight into Kwon Taek Joo's eyes. Zhenya even asked with his eyes if he had anything to say.

He picked up a noodle he was eating and brought it towards Zhenya. The guy looked puzzled. Kwon Taek Joo waved his chopsticks as if inviting him to try it. The guy didn't move. Kwon Taek Joo also nodded to ramen again without backing down.

Zhenya sighed and quickly tilted his head. He silently accepted and ate the noodles that Kwon Taek Joo gave him. [How was it?] he asked. There was no reply. Zhenya just crossed his arms and quietly chewed what was in his mouth.

He finished the rest of the ramen and watched Zhenya's reaction. The man's jaw stopped moving, and the neckline slowly swayed one by one. But that's all. Now, as if he had become immune to that level of spiciness, Zhenya casually sliced the steak again.

Then suddenly Zhenya lifted the glass of water and rinsed his mouth. It was a leisurely movement, not rushed. However, his ears and eyes were a bit red. Zhenya drank water little by little until the glass was all gone, it seemed like even his lips were swollen. Perhaps the ultimate secret to escaping Koshichei is Korean red pepper.

Kwon Taek Joo had a good time with a ridiculous idea. Zhenya looked at him resentfully.

[Are you happy, Taek Joo?]

[That's really cool. Most mercenaries learned how to make kimchi within a year of living in Korea. How are you still like this?]

[Spicy is not a taste, but a pain. Is it necessary to get used to the pain?]

[Those are not words you can say, you brazen brat.]

Zhenya had forced him to adapt to the pain, but now he was stupid enough to ask him that again.

[It's good for you too, Taek Joo. Now I can easily put mine in.]

A person who lacks shame because he cannot be more shameless. Regardless of time and place, even in front of his mother. Zhenya said vulgar things. He gulped and said it was spicy. His blue eyes were always calm and seemed to be surrounded by gentle water.

Kwon Taek Joo put all the milk into a cup of coffee and gave it to Zhenya. The movement of the guy receiving the cup was not natural but as if surprised. He quietly placed his mouth on the cup for a moment and then swallowed. The contrasting sizes of Zhenya and the cup make Kwon Taek Joo feel both trivial and cute.

[How long do you want to live on that baby's tongue? If you can't eat spicy food in Korea, the food you can eat will be reduced by one-third.]

[I hope to live there all my life.]

It was a word without any particular weight, but in that moment, Kwon Taek Joo's hand, which was preparing to continue the meal, unconsciously stopped.

[.What?

He nodded and shyly brushed it off.

Kwon Taek Joo does not envision a distant future. It wasn't until one day that Zhenya's unusual interest in him faded away, when he regained composure. He just decided on such an ambiguous ending. This is not a relationship that started because we loved each other so much that we couldn't live without each other. It's only been a year. However, due to work, the two were only together for less than 100 days. It is said that life is unpredictable and people's minds change when they reflect. Is it necessary to make an appointment for the distant future, though? It wasn't like he was determined to be responsible for Zhenya for the rest of his life.

Kwon Taek Joo understood that in his mind, but why did he keep feeling empty? The chopsticks became slow. The salad was almost at the level of being stuffed into the mouth like a masher. He didn't know what he had put in his mouth and was chewina greedily when Zhenya suddenly stood up. Kwon Taek Joo's eyes followed.

[Eat more.]

He thought he wanted to go to the bathroom, but Zhenya went into a nearby bedroom. Zhenya didn't come back for a while. At first Kwon Taek Joo didn't notice, but the prolonged absence made him glance toward the door. Lunch also stops there.

Zhenya reappeared with decent clothes. When Kwon Taek Joo looked at him, Zhenya checked his watch and said [I'm about to leave.]

[Where to go?]

[That…]

The guy answered briefly and then reached for the phone on the table, ready to leave at any time.

But Kwon Taek Joo still wore the robe. Wavy hair is only half dry. Leave the country looking like this?

No, ignoring that problem, he had wasted too much time on this activity alone. Kwon Taek Joo should immediately hand over the data to headquarters and be ready in case of an unexpected dispatch. I don't have time to hang out in Russia.

[Ya, this time it really won't work. The scale of the case is larger than I thought, so I must immediately report it to my superiors.]

[Don't worry. I will go alone.]

He almost unconsciously asked again. Because if Zhenya appeared during the operation, he had to go to Aiinoki Island after completing the job. You have to spend the time he earns himself there. It's always like that, regardless of whether Kwon Taek Joo wants it or not.

But luckily that's not the case this time. However, it was clear that his shocked face had not disappeared.

[It may take a few days.)

Did something happen to the Boadanov family? No, it would be strange if nothing happened to that family. Haven't there been any special trends or problems in Russia recently? Even if that happened, there would be no reason to bring in Zhenya, who is currently the ambassador to South Korea. Should you ask why? Is that too invasive of privacy? If it's a problem that Kwon Taek Joo can't solve, then asking won't change anything.

Zhenya ended the story there. Kwon Taek Joo poured wine into a glass and drank it all. Zhenya quietly observed him then suddenly approached and lifted Kwon Taek Joo's chin. Before swallowing all the wine in his mouth, Kwon Taek Joo parted his lips. A bit of wine choked in his mouth. Ugh, he frowned. Zhenya didn't mind and just licked his thick lips before leaving. He looks like he's smiling and closing his eyes as usual, so it seems like there's nothing to worry about.

[I'll be back soon.]

[Go quickly. I also want to rest a bit.]

Kwon Taek Joo pushed Zhenya's back. [Not cute at all,] Zhenya smiled and left the room. The door opened when he left and then closed again. The room suddenly became quiet.

Kwon Taek Joo took wine and a glass and went to the private swimming pool. No one bothers me anymore so I can rest now. Kwon Taek Joo gently dipped his toes into the water. The water is moderately warm. He sat on a nearby sunbed and enjoyed the breeze. The splendid night view of Las Vegas stretches across the glass wall. A city that forgets the night. A feast of bright lights as if

sprinkled with precious stones. All of them, including the top floor rooms and fragrant sake. Have you ever experienced such luxury in your entire life?

"It's such an unreasonable luxury."

Kwon Taek Joo sighed and drank another glass of wine. He gently swallowed the remaining wine and massaged his sore neck. His body gradually softened as if he could sleep soundly right now.

Kwon Taek Joo sat indifferently like that for a long time. Thanks to Zhenya, his work went smoothly and it couldn't have been better to enjoy some alone time like this until he returned to Korea.

But there is also something a bit worrying. It feels strange to be alone in such a luxurious space. Kwon Taek Joo couldn't understand why.

Is there anything I should ask just now? Kwon Taek Joo looked up at the ceiling and thought vaguely.

5.5 Side Story

It's been two weeks since losing contact with Zhenya. Kwon Taek Joo said goodbye to him in Las Vegas and returned to Korea by plane the next morning. He checked his phone as soon as he arrived at the airport, but there were no messages from Zhenya. He should have come to Moscow a long time ago. Since then there has been no news until now.

Of course in the case of other people, it's useless to worry about Zhenya's health. But he had never been away for such a long time, so Kwon Taek Joo couldn't help but care. Perhaps the lona vacation arranged after completing the mission was boring, so Kwon Taek Joo had a lot of time to think like that.

Yoon Jong Woo, who is called every two days, introduced a popular game recently. After mastering it in less than a week, Kwon Taek Joo lost interest. Yoon Jong Woo asked him to join another game with him. But the problem is that forming a group in real life or in the game does not suit his interests at all. I don't understand why Kwon Taek Joo doesn't want to watch movies or videos or even read books during this vacation.

He picked up the phone again and stared at his list of one-way calls.

Are you sick anywhere? Or was it a sudden accident or emergency surgery? Because of such unavoidable circumstances, can't you contact me or come back soon?

(Zhenya got him attached)

Kwon Taek Joo assumed some situations and then shook his head after a while. He couldn't imagine such things would happen to Zhenya.

That guy wasn't always an iron man, because we lived together for only a year and there was also a time when he got sick. Zhenya especially struggled with the Korean heat. Due to the effects of global warming, occasional heat ups and downs of up to 30 degrees have been recorded in Moscow, but that has nothing to do with Zhenya. If it gets hot, Zhenya will go to Ajinoki Island.

The guy, after taking cold showers several times a day. finally poured ice into the bathtub. then filled it with cold water and sat down. Just being close to Zhenya at that time was enough to feel a cold atmosphere.

[What are you doing?]

[Don't you know?1

[If so, you will suffer from hypothermia and possibly go straight to hell because of cardiac arrest.]

[Isn't it hell now? Awful. The whole country is as hot as boiling.]

[What can you do to that extent?]

There was no point in nagging Zhenya to go

out and saying he would catch a cold. And it would be even more troublesome if Kwon Taek Joo stopped him any more, because he might also be dragged into the bathtub if he kept loitering in front of Zhenya. Kwon Taek Joo had to leave him alone. A moment later Zhenya came out of the bathroom, his porcelain white face without a drop of blood.

[You are as white as a piece of paper. Lips are also pale.]

Clicking his tongue, Kwon Taek Joo used a towel to dry Zhenya's hair. The boy who was obediently entrusting his body to Kwon Taek Joo suddenly rushed towards him with a cold body. It was so cold that he didn't know if it was human body temperature or not, just touching Zhenya gave him goosebumps all over his body. Kwon Taek Joo turned on the heater, but Zhenya still couldn't warm up.

I knew it would be like this. Kwon Taek Joo sighed and hugged the clingy kid. That day, Zhenya did not let go of Kwon Taek Joo until his body became hot again. Once he starts making love, Zhenya usually doesn't know how to stop, even though it's dangerous to sweat in such a frozen state. And the next day, Zhenya fell ill.

The person who always wakes up first, is drowsy that day and doesn't even intend to get up. He touched Zhenya's forehead. he seemed to have a fever.

[Ah kid, what did I say? I told you not to overdo it. Just turning on the air conditioner is enough. I'm not a snowman but you're still so strangely stubborn.]

[Taek Joo. I just have a little fever. There's nothing to worry about.]

Although Zhenya acted like nothing special, he still did not loosen his arm from Kwon

Taek Joo's waist. How can you move with

this thing stuck to you?

[Then put this down. I have to go to work.]

[You're so cold, Taek Joo]

[I'm not a child, I'm not sick to the point of death. If it continues to not get better, go to the hospital. If not, then go home. I'll call mom.]

Zhenya blankly listened to Kwon Taek Joo's advice and then blinked. It wasn't long before his eyelids completely closed and Kwon Taek Joo could hear Zhenya's heavy breathing. Perhaps because of the cold, Kwon Taek Joo's breathing became more wheezing, and the arms around Kwon Taek Joo's waist also loosened.

Kwon Taek Joo checked the heat again, but it wasn't boiling enough to have to sit next to it and take care of it. Furthermore, that day he had to go to work and submit a report. He hesitated, then occasionally looked at the clock and left the house very late.

Kwon Taek Joo had lunch that day and suddenly had a cough. Yoon Jong Woo sitting across from him opened his eyes wide.

"Wow, senior has a cold? Right in the middle of summer?"

"What kind of flu? Just a sneeze."

"Ah, my arms are full of goosebumps. Lips are also pale."

"Why are you turning on the air conditioner here so strongly?"

"Is it too strong? But if you don't open it this much, you won't be able to breathe because it's too hot."

Kwon Taek Joo was dizzy even though he was eating hot soup. The others were sweating profusely, but he was the only one whose chin was cold. It's all because of Zhenya. But even so, I don't know if she's eating properly.

"No way. Eat and then go."

"Yes?2"

"I have to stop by here for a bit."

Finally, Kwon Taek Joo stopped eating and went to see Zhenya. He must have been asleep since morning and had been lying alone in bed until then. When he touched his forehead, the slight fever was still there.

Kwon Taek Joo looked at the sleeping face for a long time before trying to remove his hand. Zhenya's head slowly followed. Unconsciously, Zhenya rubbed his forehead against his hand. Not knowing if it was sleep talking or not, he sighed and muttered [Taek Joo]

...Anyway, if this bastard is like a monster then he has to do it to the end. Why does it make people feel so strangely guilty?

The fact that Zhenya lived in a foreign land was entirely due to Kwon Taek Joo. He himself is also the only person Zhenya can rely on in Korea over the past year. Even his mother, who is always proud of her friendship with Zhenya, would be just a stranger if it weren't for Kwon Taek Joo. And it's also unfair because he himself never wanted that.

"What crime did I commit in my previous life?”

It wasn't like someone in the ancestors killed the python that had just become a dragon. If that weren't the case, then there seems to be no feud as deep as this guy that warrants a nuclear bomb.

With that dissatisfied expression, Kwon Taek Joo played with Zhenya's ivory hair. The sleeping man's expression became more relaxed. The guy seemed to like his cold hands....Well, anyway. There's no 2 meter luggage to have to carry like a burden and sometimes bring about this indescribable feeling of debt.

That day was the first time Kwon Taek Joo left early since joining the headquarters.

Remembering the past, he frowned and scratched his head.

"What an unnecessary worry."

5.6 Side Story

Kwon TeakJoo muttered boredly. In general, no news means good news, but Zhenya is an exception. When he was silent, Kwon Taek Joo started to worry about where he was and what he was doing. Even if it's just a little bit, it's still worrying. Because Zhenya's identity is quite sensitive. The Bogdanov family itself has many enemies, and Zhenya is the type of person who likes to make enemies. Not long ago, Zhenya was also "kidnapped' because of 'Anastasia'. Thinking about it again and again, it's really impossible to say.

That was when Kwon Taek Joo went on a long business trip to China for about a month. But somehow Zhenya didn't show up all that time. He wondered if Zhenya had heeded his request not to interfere in his work.

However, Kwon Taek Joo received a phone call at the end of the mission. The strangers suddenly said that they were holding Zhenya, and if they wanted Zhenya to be safe, they should obediently bring Anastasia.

The call ended unilaterally. Kwon Taek Joo blankly looked at the silent phone and then burst out laughing. No comedy is this funny. In all his life, he had never heard anything so absurd. They

kidnapped Zhenya, and in exchange for 'Anastasia' was 'Zhenya's safe return'. From the beginning, he couldn't believe that something like this would happen to Zhenya. Even if that's true. It's the kidnappers who need to worry, not Zhenya. So Kwon Taek Joo didn't pay attention. Completing the job safely was his top priority at the time.

After completing the mission, Kwon Taek Joo tried calling Zhenya. Don't pick up the phone. Can't send messages either. A vague thought appeared in his mind. No way. No matter what, he couldn't paint a single picture of Zhenya being kidnapped. Kwon Taek Joo repeatedly denied that there was no way that was the case and left to return home. Why is a two-hour flight so long?

When Kwon Taek Joo arrived home, even his mother was worried that she hadn't seen Zhenya. Until then, he still believed that this was not the case and asked Yoon Jong Woo to find the other guy's whereabouts. With no confirmed exit documents, he frustratedly went to Zhenya's house. The house is empty. The Bugatti was also quietly parked in the garage. After a while of searching, Kwon Taek Joo found a bottle of soju under the car. Around that time, whenever Zhenya went to the convenience store, he always bought it along with ramen.

Are you really caught? That kid's name?

While Kwon Taek Joo was fighting fiercely, the kidnappers sent a photo of Zhenya. The guy was tied to a chair and had his eyes closed, not knowing whether he was sleeping or unconscious. Zhenya's mouth was sealed and his body chained. The chains were tied from the neck to the wrists and then to the ankles, so it seemed difficult to move. As soon as the unimaginable image became clear, Kwon Taek Joo's spine suddenly tensed.

Even if it was Zhenya, it would be difficult to survive if attacked or drugged. In an instant, it was possible that he was overwhelmed by many people. After making such a trivial assumption, Kwon Taek Joo didn't even rest and immediately set off.

He traveled all the way to Yogyakarta, Indonesia to find Zhenya. Before that, Kwon Taek Joo stopped by Ajinoki Island for a while to pick up the item that Zhenya gave him, 'Anastasia'. After such a long time traveling, it's surprising how the heck they managed to drag Zhenya to such a remote place from Korea.

Their base is disguised as a parts factory

for an international company. Wherever he went in Indonesia, security was tight, and especially there. From the main gate, tight surveillance cameras are installed at each door and wherever you go, you have to face guards armed with heavy weapons. They are all elite agents. After manipulating each person one by one and silently controlling them, Kwon Taek Joo's physical strength was greatly depleted.

He found a secret exit leading to the

building's basement with many guards guarding it. That is the main production site of the factory, if Zhenya was caught it would most likely be there. But for some reason, the hallway there was empty. Except for one room where the access system was operating, other places showed absolutely no trace of humans. Maybe this is a trap.

Feeling suspicious, Kwon Taek Joo climbed into the ventilation hole on the ceiling. He carefully crawled through the narrow, dusty passageway and entered the access control room. Trying not to make a sound made his whole body tense, the sweat that had accumulated almost turned into paste along with the dust.

There were sparse human sounds as he crawled closer to the room. There were occasional screams or groans, and Kwon Taek Joo sighed in despair as he saw movements below through the grate of the room's ventilation hole. Zhenya noticed and looked up. He rushed in front of Kwon Taek Joo.

[I'm late.]

Those were the first words Zhenya uttered. The guy didn't seem to be injured by even a hair, let alone a finger. Those who claimed to have kidnapped Zhenya were lying everywhere with their heads blown off or their bodies strangely twisted. That was the moment when all the worries about him became useless.

[What? Late what?]

There is a golden time for violent incidents such as kidnapping. I was almost in danger.]

[It seems like the people who captured you are the ones in danger.]

[Hmm? This... Anyone can see that this is legitimate defense, right?]

Zhenya responded blatantly and then gently twisted the last kidnapper's neck. The trembling man drooped down with a groan of despair.

After cleaning up, the guy looked at Kwon Taek Joo from top to bottom and suddenly smiled. A mocking smile.

[What were you doing there that was so dusty? Crawling through the ventilation hole again?]

Kwon Taek Joo felt his body temperature drop sharply. He was worried about that bastard and came all the way to this far away place without even resting. Your ability to evaluate things is too bad.

[Ha, you're such an idiot for believing it right away. Did you have fun?]

[What fun? I don't want to be kidnapped either.]

[Really? Kidnapped? You? Don't you follow people on all fours? Is it easy to kidnap someone like me?]

What? I was scared because I didn't know when I would be saved.]

The bastard continued to provoke. If I scared him again, maybe even a platoon would disappear.

[Say. The threatening phone call telling me to bring Anastasia was also what you asked for, right?]

[Why do you speak as if I instigated a kidnapping?]

[Otherwise, why was there such a call? Shouldn't they call the embassy?]

[Isn't it normal to demand ransom from a guardian? The other side got the wrong person, so I'll just correct it.]

[Guardian of an adult child? So are you injured anywhere?]

Kwon Taek Joo looked at him with dissatisfied eyes. Zhenya was stunned as if receiving an unfamiliar question.

[What injury?]

[So, being forced to drink drugs or being tortured...]

[Are you worried about me now?I

After all, Zhenya's only strong points are her beautiful face and body.

Kwon Taek Joo cleared his throat to regain composure, then he gently tapped his neck.

[Why is that area scratched?]

[What's up? If you knew who made the tea, would you scold that person? If I knew this, I should have let them live.]

Zhenya looked around regretfully. The bodies were in such bad condition that it was impossible to determine whether they were alive or dead. Bored and don't want to talk anymore.

[Even if you are an immature child, you still have to have moderation. Why are you challenging such a busy person?]

[It's not a challenge. I thought you wouldn't come.]

Zhenya shrugged as if he didn't expect much

[Several days passed without any news so I gave up.]

[Ya, you must have been captured somewhere else. Do you know how hard I worked outside while you were having fun here?

[If you hadn't come, I wouldn't have died. Even though I was alone, Iescaped safely. Even so, I'm getting bored so I think I'll deal with this guy and leave. And then he came.]

Is Zhenya too leisurely? Kwon Taek Joo angrily brushed off his wrinkled shirt. It's useless. The speckled dirt clung tighter as he slapped his hand against it.

Furthermore, even that was ripped apart by Zhenya. The guy did not change his behavior at all and still used other people's clothes as handkerchiefs to wipe blood and bodily fluids from his hands. Looking at him, Kwon Taek Joo's mind went blank.

[...Sigh... Because of a brat like you, I'm getting older.]

It seems like the accumulated fatigue is coming down all at once. Kwon Taek Joo stroked his face and sighed deeply.

[But are you really okay?]

Right at that moment, even Kwon Taek Joo couldn't understand why he was so worried about Zhenya. Even though he knew it was the most useless action in the world. he still kept an eye on him. In any case, Zhenya was still human, so he didn't know if he had suffered a mental attack or not, because internal injuries were inherently more dangerous than external injuries when exposed to strong shock.

And as expected, Zhenya looked puzzled.

[What else?]

[People who go through really bad things often experience trauma, right? Even the most highly trained agents will be threatened if they are captured and detained or tortured. It can have a big impact later.]

Zhenya listened carefully then sighed as if laughing.

[You're unexpectedly overprotective. There's nothing to worry about. I'm quite used to things like this.]

[Are you familiar with it?]

For a moment, Kwon Taek Joo thought he had heard wrong. Because he couldn't immediately realize what "getting used to being kidnapped" meant.

[Was it when you were six years old? It could be a little before or a little later. I'm on my way home after a horse riding lesson. The driver was killed instantly by a bullet flying from somewhere. The car immediately lost direction and crashed into the river. I just swam out of the water but there were already many people waiting there. Then a mask was immediately placed on her head. When I woke up, I was locked in a musty warehouse. Don't know what they require at home. It could be money, it could be some kind of right, or it could be benefits or power that cannot be measured in money... The more things you have, the more enemies you have, right? Maybe it was evil acts during the crime, or simply because of the greed of those who covet other people's things. I'm definitely the easiest person to bully in their eyes, because I'm still young. No matter how infamous the family was, they must have thought that the bloodline would be precious. It was a mistake because the Bogdanov family values pride and pride more than mere blood.]

Zhenya is someone who likes to express things abstractly, so Kwon Taek Joo couldn't understand what he was saying.

[...What are you talking about?]

[That's just an obvious story. Kidnapped by adults' wishes and abandoned by adults' calculations, things didn't go as expected, so they began to get stressed. She was starved, bullied, and never slept. They gave me a stethoscope so I could cry and beg for help. I have endured it. I don't want to beg. I didn't listen to what they wanted but bowed my head and went home to beg for my life.]

[The family saw their actions as a challenge to the Bogdanov family and, moreover, to the Kremlin. They wanted to use that as an example, so they started using force to completely wipe them out.

They poured artillery shells in as if they forgot I was still in the hands of the kidnappers. Dozens of hundreds of bullets and bombs flew through the walls and ceiling. The heads of those who threatened her were blown off and their limbs were torn everywhere. Incredible.]

Zhenya nonchalantly recalled that moment. How could such a chaotic thing happen to a child only 6 years old? Pitiful.

IThe survivors did not surrender in the end. I've been playing with grenades since I was little. Maybe it was the first time. Taking the lives of others with these two hands.]

The story is so cruel.

At that time, Kwon Taek Joo was about ten years old. The time when he went to school without worrying about anything but just hanging out with friends and playing soccer. He didn't know how to comfort someone who lived in a completely different world from him. He didn't expect Zhenya to grow up in a normal environment, but he didn't know it would come to that.

[You don't need to be sad, Taek Joo. Every family has its own traditions, and everyone adapts or resigns to it. Even though it's a bit cruel and inhumane, who knows, maybe that's why the current Bogdanov family exists. People give birth to people, animals give birth to animals. Monsters will give birth to monsters. To not be overlooked among monsters, you must be stronger than anyone else. That's how I became the person I am today. First it's my peers, then it's my adults, then my family, and finally, even the world can't look down on me. It's all thanks to Anastasia.]

Surely, who would dare to touch a state employee Psych. Even Zhenya's family couldn't treat him arbitrarily. Zhenya always lives according to his wishes, but is that good? Olga's words suddenly appeared in Kwon Taek Joo's mind: "How long will you live alone?". Kwon Taek Joo looked at Zhenya, he looked lonely and tired because he had never been at peace.

[Don't you think that Anastasia makes you more tired? Like Olga said, why don't you give it to those who want it? If so, at least there won't be any trouble like this. These bastards also wanted that, so they kidnapped me. Now I don't need that anymore, so whether you take it back or leave it, you know how to do it yourself. Anyway, if I can confirm that you're safe, I'm planning on handing it over to these guys...]

[Ah, that's right. Taek Joo. I gave it to you. He blew one up before. I hid one at my parents' house and one at Ajinoki. Come to think of it, I did give one to the little woman]

(He’s talking about Taek Joo’s mother)

Gave "Anastasia" to mom? Kwon Taek Joo's eyebrows furrowed.

[What are you talking about? Why do you keep saying such incomprehensible things?]

[I told you, Taek Joo. Anastasia may or may not exist. I'm the only one who can prove it. If what I gave you was called Anastasia, everyone would think it was Anastasia. Also, if you name that pistol over there Anastasia, it will be Anastasia. Anastasia is ultimately in the mind of the person who desires it, and whether it exists or not is up to you. You are the only one who knows this secret.]

[What? Is that a lie to preserve life? I thought if that disappeared, something big would happen to you.]

While Kwon Taek Joo was angry because he thought he was tricked, Zhenya took a step closer. His face was filled with blue eyes.

[Right. Your breath. My weakness. And the secret weapon that makes you the strongest person in the world. Now Anastasia is before your eyes.]

The hair on the back of Kwon Taek Joo's neck stood up. Zhenya is very good at spewing that goosebumps-inducing sound in people's faces. At such times, the cold, reptile-like eves also become soft with unprecedented warmth.

[Taek Joo]

[Why. Why are you so close?]

[If you come to save the princess trapped in the castle, then that's the end result isn't it?]

(He’s talking about a princess trapped in a castle and ‘the end’ would be a kiss to wake the princess up or something)

[Who is the princess? Don't make fun of me.]

Kwon Taek Joo didn't want to rub his lips like that in a place filled with the smell of blood, but Zhenya showed a pitiful look.

[Actually, I was waiting. I tested my patience every day, every hour, every second.]

Even though he was determined not to get carried away, Zhenya always opened Kwon Taek Joo's latch with absurd ease. It was strange that he couldn't act strong when looking at that gentle face. It's all just a mask, just a trick like a fox trying to trick you. No matter how you think about it, it doesn't mean anything.

[..Damned. Come here, Yevgeny.]

(He’s getting babied right now hahah)

[Taek Joo, my Rabbit.]

So, that face is very...

"Argh!"

Kwon Taek Joo shivered as soon as he remembered the memory of kissing in a place where corpses were scattered. He scratched his head in frustration. Or is it because the inside is soft that the brain is also soft? He didn't know if Zhenya's madness was contagious or not.

Kwon Taek Joo couldn't say his life was always peaceful anywhere, but after getting entangled with Zhenya he really didn't have a good day. It's not that he doesn't know what kind of person Zhenya is, but it's also his fault for holding such a bomb.

5.7 Side Story

Kwon Taek Joo picked up the phone he threw away. Open source. The list of incoming calls is displayed on the screen. No calls or messages from Zhenya.

He carefully checked each phone number. phone number as a precaution, but did not see the phone number of "Do not display caller identity". At least not like the time Zhenya was kidnapped.

Kwon Taek Joo tapped his phone thinking before calling somewhere. Call connection rang twice then picked up. The voice on the other end of the second rang out.

-hello?

The main character with a somewhat awkward voice is none other than Yoon Jong Woo.

"Yoon Jong Woo, what are you doing?"

-What am I doing? I'm working very hard.

"Are you busy?"

- From now on I will be very busy.

Yoon Jong Woo is afraid of getting into trouble. He was only obedient when he first arrived as an assistant shooter, but now he has grown up a lot. Of course, nothing has changed though.

"Don't be like that, do me a favor."

-I don't know what it is, but please do it yourself. I've been resting lately so I'm very comfortable.

"If I could do it, I would have done it early. Why do I have to say these things to you?"

There was no answer from Kwon Taek Joo's sarcastic question, instead there was just a grumble from far away from the receiver.

"Yoon Jong Woo?" Kwon Taek Joo spoke up. Only to hear the hum again, "Hmm."

Let's hear what's going on first.

"Yevgeny Vysarionovich Bogdanov. Do you know?”

-What's wrong with that person?

"Why are you stuttering like that? Is he a ghost?

-Are you kidding? I don't think there is any difference.

"Okay. Find out where he is."

-...Yes?? Now you're asking to investigate civilians? That's a very sensitive issue, senior.

He jumped up. The scream almost made Kwon Taek Joo's ears fall off. Yoon Jong Woo is often surprised and scared but he still tries to join NIS. Is his ability that outstanding? Kwon Taek Joo sighed.

"Do you think that bastard looks like a commoner?"

-No, I mean... No... Not that... After all, he is a diplomat. If you dig up mistakes, it could become a diplomatic issue...

"There will be no such thing and if it does happen, I will be responsible so let's find out where he is. I didn't ask you to arrest that bastard."

This time, Yoon Jong Woo also took his phone away and mumbled something. "I heard it all." He was startled and explained that he didn't say anything. Kwon Taek Joo laughed menacingly.

-Really, this is the last time.

"Alright. Check it out now and call me."

Hanging up. Kwon Taek Joo just wanted to check if Zhenya had entered Russia and if so, whether he was still there or not.

He has tried to live a life that clearly distinguishes between work and private life. But when living with Zhenya, that boundary begins to collapse. Kwon Taek Joo cannot rest assured even for a moment because Zhenya has no limits and often causes trouble. He himself decided to accept and tame Zhenya when he settled in Korea, which means Zhenya's troubles are also Kwon Taek Joo's troubles.

The phone rang again not long after. He reflexively grabbed it and checked the caller first. Still not Zhenya. Ah, Kwon Taek Joo received the call. Yoon Jong Woo's report rang out.

-Senior, Yevgeny Vissarionovich Bogdanov is confirmed to have entered Russia. 2 weeks ago.

"What now? No records of exit from Russia or transfer to a third country?"

-Yes. None.

So Zhenya only stayed in Russia for the past 2 weeks. The answer that to some extent Kwon Taek Joo had expected, but for some reason his arms and legs were hanging loose. "I understand." he was about to end the call. Yoon Jong Woo's voice was urgent.

- Senior, please don't forget what I said just now.

"A moment ago? What have I said?"

-He said that if anything happened, he would take responsibility. I'm just a pitiful subordinate who succumbed to authority.

"Alright. Back to work."

He laughed. Yoon Jong Woo finished speaking, "Bogdanov, please talk to that person like that too." After all, being an employee of the National Intelligence Agency is scary.

End call. The surroundings became quiet again. Kwon Taek Joo looked at the phone bewilderedly and tried calling Zhenya. Still no answer.

"Hey. I don't know. That bastard is not a child either."

He threw the phone away and ruffled his hair uncomfortably.

—

The ground shook. Bang bang bang. Kwon Taek Joo could not stand up straight every time the vibration changed. Everywhere was dark and everywhere was the smell of damp earth. Not long after, the ground shook with a loud bang. Mixed screaming The people around him were blurry with unclear shapes. The language they speak is similar to Korean, English, and Russian.

Thinking it was a dream, Kwon Taek Joo tried going a little further. He couldn't see anything as far as he could see, so he had no choice but to move forward until he came across a wall.

Then the walls and ceiling shook again, followed by broken stone powder pouring down. Kwon Taek Joo cowered out of habit. but small fragments still entered his eyes, nose and ears. He was out of breath. He shook his head vigorously and brushed the foreign object away, then waved his hand to clear the dusty air in front of him.

When Kwon Taek Joo was about to take another step, his foot stepped on something soft. He almost fell over but he kept his balance. Reflexively raising his head, Kwon Taek Joo saw an unexpected figure. It was a boy about six or seven years old. Left alone in a dungeon-like place with no light, the child had silver hair and blue eyes. The image was similar to many dreams he had encountered before.

Why did that kid appear like that? Kwon Taek Joo frowned. Of course there's no guarantee who that baby is even though he looks a lot like someone Kwon Taek Joo knows well, but it's difficult to be sure. Kwon Taek Joo has not yet confirmed Zhenya's childhood photo but he still thinks it would be Zhenya if there was proper evidence.

Up until now, the dream has become intense every time the child appears. The boy did not cause any particular harm to Kwon Taek Joo himself, but every time he woke up he always felt confused and strangely guilty. It had been a while since he had dreamed of the boy so he felt somewhat relieved, but now it appeared like this.

The child saw Kwon Taek Joo and raised his guard and backed away. There was something in the small white hand, looking like a grenade.

Thinking back, he stepped on something just now. Kwon Taek Joo slowly looked back. In places as far as the eye could reach, scattered pieces of flesh had lost their human shape. Even seemingly normal people were groaning under the collapsed pillar.

The insecurity came again. Kwon Taek Joo frantically looked around but nothing came into view. Outside the square blue window. something like the shadow of a fighter plane flashed past. Gunfire also rang out. Red laser beams emitted from various guns instantly covered the space and floor. The warning to surrender echoed from afar.

Suddenly, Kwon Taek Joo remembered the childhood anecdote that Zhenya had told him. He said he was used to being kidnapped? It seemed that the afterimages of that time had passed through the subconscious and appeared like a dream. The problem is that Kwon Taek Joo cannot wake up even though he knows this is a dream. A crazy dream.

He looked everywhere for a way out. At that moment, a shock stronger than ever exploded throughout the building. The ground shook violently. Even the ceiling could not bear it and collapsed. If this continues, everything will be buried in hopelessness.

It was all so vivid that the perception of the dream faded away. The only thought in Kwon Taek Joo's mind was to quickly escape. He turned his head towards the silver-haired boy. The child was still glaring at Kwon Taek Joo with sharp eyes. He waved to the boy to come quickly, but the child didn't even move and just looked at him warily.

Zhenya! He tried to scream but his throat was choked. Kwon Taek Joo tried opening his mouth wide and putting strength into his stomach, but all sounds seemed to disappear into nothingness. While the ruthless attack continued, the building began to rapidly collapse.

Kwon Taek Joo ran to the child and tried to pull him out. But even that is not easy. As if a transparent barrier had been placed in front of him. Kwon Taek Joo could not take another step forward. Even if he ran until it hurt. Kwon Taek Joo could not get close to the child.

He continued to call Zhenya, his mouth opening and closing. But the child just stared blankly as if facing a strange scene.

Damn it, run away!

His arms and legs struggled until they were numb. An urgent cry choked in his throat. He felt so frustrated that he went crazy.

As if teasing Kwon Taek Joo, something heavy blew in the wind from behind. There was silence inside the building. And just then, the condensed air exploded and tore the child apart. His whole body was as hot as fire.

—

"Oh my God!"

Kwon Taek Joo jumped up. His vision opened in an instant, making him dizzy. His eyes opened wide. He didn't blink for a while, his eyelids even trembled.

"Haha..."

The breath he had been trying to endure escaped him. His lungs ached. His heart was pounding like it was about to explode in his chest. His throat was dry as if he had been screaming the whole time.

Kwon Taek Joo just breathed a sigh of relief when he learned that it was all just a dream. He slowly stroked his face. His trembling palms quickly became wet. Looking back, it wasn't such a terrible nightmare that it made him shudder. To be more precise, there were times when Kwon Taek Joo lived a much crueler reality. Even so, the feeling of discomfort and frustration has not diminished.

After all, where did the child come from, and why did he appear like that and cause a stir? It's not like anything really happened to Zhenya. Even though he denied that there was no way that would be the case, his heart sank.

Kwon Taek Joo confusedly scratched the back of his neck and grabbed the phone. He still hadn't heard anything from Zhenya. He tried calling right away but this time he couldn't even hear the ringback tone. It was as if the phone had been turned off.

"Where is this kid going?"

If it's late, it's too late. It's difficult to know if something unexpected has really happened, unless you face the inevitable situations directly.

Furthermore, Kwon Taek Joo himself never made it clear to Zhenya where he was going, what he was doing, and when he would return. That was the NIS's work regulations, but he didn't feel the need to do so, and because he also knew that Zhenya still followed and came to see him like a ghost wherever he went. It's not often that he makes a private meeting with Zhenya, sending messages or calling can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

"Who doesn't have a conscience towards anyone?"

Suddenly questioning myself. Kwon Taek Joo scratched the back of his neck and checked the time. It's past 7 am. Looks like there's someone outside the door. His mother seemed to be preparing breakfast.

Kwon Taek Joo stood up and went out. Seeing him wake up early, his mother asked with a surprised face.

"Don't you go to work until next Monday?"

"Yes. But if you think too long, it will be difficult to work right away. I want to go out for a bit to grasp the work situation."

"Uh. Mom will prepare some food, eat and then go."

"Ah, I don't eat breakfast."

"You should not let fasting become a habit. How can I work properly on an empty stomach?”

"If you go to work now, it'll be almost lunch time"

"Huh, will I be young forever? Debt piles up on your body when you're young, and when you're older, you'll have to pay it back many times over. You're not too young anymore, so you have to take care of your health. Nowadays, people say that illness does not discriminate by age, so you should go for a checkup regularly…"

"Yes.. I know. Is this beef stew soup? It smells so good."

Kwon Taek Joo quickly interrupted his mother's presentation that was about to begin and rushed into the bathroom, Until the door closed, his mother still diligently recounted the medical history of her parents' family, starting with the story of her friend's son having a stroke due to a brain hemorrhage. He could guess the backstory even without hearing everything. Which foods are good for which organs, which ingredients are attracting attention today, how harmful is drinking alcohol and smoking to the body. From when he was a child until now, his mother's interests and hobbies have not changed. The nagging repertoire also remains consistent.

After a quick shower. Kwon Taek Joo sat down at the table. There were so many side dishes that he couldn't find an empty spot on the table. He picked up the spoon and said, "I will eat well." Except for kimchi there are no old dishes. Thinking of that sincerity, Kwon Taek Joo tried each dish and the bowl of rice quickly emptied. His mother said "Look" while scooping up more rice. This is the happiest time of her day.

"Does the embassy have a lot of work these days?"

"If so, how can I rest like this?

"Really?I don't know if the ambassador is very busy because I haven't seen him come home."

Kwon Taek Joo's chopsticks stopped. Because Zhenya was suddenly mentioned. The food in my mouth almost choked. He could barely swallow what was in his mouth and drink water. His mother continued to worry about Zhenya.

"Mom was worried about what happened because his phone didn't call. He lives alone in a country where it's impossible to talk, so if there's an emergency he won't be able to ask for help."

"Mom is also real. Is he a child? He also received leave like you and returned home to rest. So mom, there's no need to worry."

Kwon Taek Joo responded indifferently. His mother seemed surprised.

"Hey! No matter how young he is, he is still your superior, even if he is not here, how can you talk like that as an equal?"

He opened his mouth to explain but then stopped, because there was no effective excuse.

"...No, we're just trying to talk comfortably to each other."

"Talking like that will easily become a habit, then in important situations you will make mistakes. Don't you know how old you are? You really don't know how to think."

His mother clicked her tongue in disapproval. Kwon Taek Joo tearfully picked up a piece of fish and placed it on top of the rice. Since meeting Zhenya, the frequency with which he was scolded by his mother seemed to increase. It's not really the guy's fault, but it's not entirely none of it either.

His mother definitely wouldn't have been so supportive if she knew what Zhenya did to her only son. It's unfair, but I can't reveal the details of what happened. All he could do was eat and nonchalantly regret what he had done wrong.

Kwon Taek Joo was about to leave after getting ready when his mother brought up something.

"Take this too."

"What is this?"

"If you were going to work, wouldn't the

ambassador have come back too? He eats so little that it must be difficult. Mom has prepared something he likes."

"How did it come to this? I told you there's no need to do that, Mom."

"I don't have any feelings. A young man has to live alone without family because of his job. If you can help him, you should help him."

Kwon Taek Joo and Zhenya were close but he didn't think about it this much. His mother's weakness towards Zhenya's bright appearance was probably due to the influence of her motherly instinct. Not long ago, his mother said that Zhenya looked like an angel when sleeping and Kwon Taek Joo spit out the coffee he was drinking. He didn't know what to do when facing his mother's innocent and pure eyes every time she looked at him.

"Shut your mouth and do as I say. I also often travel for work so I know better. If we live outside for a long time, everyone becomes lonely, depressed and sad. Furthermore, the ambassador didn't know Korean so he couldn't communicate. How frustrating it would be to have no friends and be far from family. You should also regularly keep an eye on him. I mean, don't leave him and think of him as your little brother."

Strangely, even his mother realized that Zhenya had no friends. Kwon Taek Joo also wondered how his mother was so fascinated by that guy. Even when his mother prayed day and night for his father and brother, she did not have blind faith like she does now. What would happen if the mother found out about his relationship with that brat? Just imagining it gave him goosebumps. A subtle feeling of guilt crept into his chest.

"I'm leaving."

Kwon Taek Joo calmly received the box and hurried out of the house.

He stopped by Zhenya's house before going to work. The visit was without any great expectations. Kwon Taek Joo was just trying to handle the boxes his mother delivered.

But when he saw the empty house, Kwon Taek Joo felt empty. There was no trace of anyone in the house. The bed sheets as well as the position of objects in the house have not changed since his visit a few days ago. The house was so quiet it was cold.

Kwon Taek Joo went into the kitchen and opened the refrigerator. There's nothing to eat. He put the boxes in the empty space without leaving any special note, maybe one day Zhenya will come back and he will know it himself.

Kwon Taek Joo slowly looked around the house again. This is a place where a person has lived for 1 year, how can he not have this feeling of living? Aside from bathroom items, wine, bed sheets and unlabeled clothing, there was nothing that could be called Zhenya. There is not even a regular washing machine in the house. He didn't know if Zhenya was leaving all his laundry to the laundromat or because he had so much money that he was throwing away all the things he only wore once.

Kwon Taek Joo opened the cupboard but it was also full of dust. Pulling out the large drawer at the bottom, many types of ramen are stacked one after another. Zhenya only cooks ramen for him so Kwon Taek Joo never touches ramen anywhere else. He also couldn't tell Zhenya to stop because he would frown again.

"...I don't like ramen."

Kwon Taek Joo lamented and closed the drawer. There's no food for Zhenya anywhere. Even when he was here, Zhenya only occasionally bought cheese, bread, and fruit. That also means he doesn't like Korean food. Kwon Taek Joo really doesn't know what Zhenya does when he's not here.

He went into the bedroom for a moment. Kwon Taek Joo remembers how shocked he was when he first arrived at this house. The body is so large that it seems that commercially available mattresses cannot fit it. So Zhenya's custom-made bed took up most of the large room. It is said that it is a super king size bed.

Not necessarily not. Kwon Taek Joo really rolled on it. To the extent that there wasn't a position he hadn't tried before. Even after a year of turmoil, not a single corner of the bed was lost. Isn't this a quality product that needs to be recognized?

Kwon Taek Joo sat on the bed for a while. The mattress supports the body firmly. I thought about a lot of things that happened in the past year. How all memories seem to lead to sex. It's not an exaggeration, but the truth is that he is always physically attached to Zhenya in this house.

It is said that when God created humans. Everything had a reason. It seems he gave Zhenya the mission of breeding the species by giving him a giant penis, an overflowing sexual desire, and an outstanding body. If it weren't for that, Zhenya wouldn't have been so filled with desire, even in the golden age of his life. Even Kwon Taek Joo, who is healthy and has good physical strength, cannot stand him because Zhenya always rushes in as soon as the two just make eye contact. It would be quick to count the number of days that he wouldn't faint after making love. I don't know, but if you two were a newlywed couple, a set of triplets would have been born. It must have been a time of lust.

A year has passed like that. Even if it had been that long, the time to decide Zhenya's heart had passed. Zhenya was still completely unchanged that Kwon Taek Joo didn't even notice the passage of time. Meanwhile, he got used to his mother worrying about him, spending time in random conversations between the two of them, spending time with Zhenya after work or on holidays, and seeing Zhenya appear. everywhere. It has become a very normal daily habit.

That's also why Kwon Taek Joo doesn't think that one day it could end, that everything could return to its original place. When the beginning is sudden, the ending can be just as sudden.

The reason why Zhenya suddenly came to Korea is because of Kwon Taek Joo. That means he can leave this place whenever Zhenya is no longer there for him.

[I hope to live there all my life.]

Every word Zhenya said still bothered him like a thorn in his heart.

5.8 Side Story

At lunchtime, Kwon Taek Joo skipped lunch and went to the embassy. Zhenya's current status is that of an ambassador, so that is his official residence. But in reality, it is extremely rare for Zhenya to stay there. He only attended official business by invitation, receptions and dinners.

The ambassador's residence is a building about 100 years old. The interior is decorated with antique furniture. It is customary to redecorate the interior to suit the new person's taste as soon as the new ambassador is appointed. But Zhenya didn't touch a single item there. He didn't even think it was his house in the first place.

Kwon Taek Joo also counted the number of times he was there. He felt very guilty because even though it was just to deceive his mother, he was also an employee of the Russian embassy, so he did not want to do private things in a place where he was on duty. But it wasn't just once or twice that Kwon Taek Joo broke that rule for Zhenya.

Around the time of his appointment as Russian ambassador to Korea, Zhenya did not hesitate to bring Kwon Taek Joo to this place. He said he wanted to take him to tour the mansion, but that wasn't the case at all, because he couldn't find any goodwill or enthusiasm in the guy.

[Why did you suddenly come here?]

[Today I had dinner with Korean politicians here. I heard that the reporters going in and out of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will arrive tomorrow.]

[What about that?]

[It's very troublesome and boring.]

The guy leisurely complained and approached Kwon Taek Joo. Instinctively, he unconsciously took a step back. Zhenya's eyes flashed strangely.

When Kwon Taek Joo hesitantly stepped back, the reception table touched the back of his thigh. Unlucky premonition. Zhenya immediately grabbed the table and locked him in her arms. Kwon Taek Joo's eves did not approve.

[But I don't know. It would be better if we create a happy memory here]

[What nonsense? Let's get out]

[Anyway, you're thinking about doing this at home, right? It's just a change of location.]

[This crazy guy. This is a workplace.]

[What is the matter? This is the house provided for the ambassador's family. Everyone here has a married life, given birth and raised children.]

It's not wrong. The mansion is also where the ambassador's family lives during his time in office. However, Is it because Kwon Taek Joo himself is also a civil servant? He felt reluctant to do something like this in a place used to handle work.

Zhenya's eves burned with fire, excitement causing his pupils to constrict and the smell of flesh to become more intense. That was a signal that his body was heating up. Zhenya continuously kissed Kwon Taek Joo's neck and caressed him.

[As a civil servant, you must follow the instructions of your superiors]

[What kind of superior are you?]

[Have you forgotten what identity you came here with? If I took care of you, then Taek Joo, you should also cooperate with the public service. That's fair.]

[Crazy...!]

Kwon Taek Joo turned his head when Zhenya leaned in to kiss him. He grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's face and squeezed it tightly. Both his cheeks were compressed and his lips parted naturally. Zhenya inserted his tongue into that gap and connected his lips. He rubbed his thick tongue and sucked so hard that Kwon Taek Joo was helplessly swept away.

When Kwon Taek Joo regained consciousness, his body was completely lying on the table, his shirt was half turned up and crumpled. Zhenya grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's exposed right chest and pulled down his pants and underwear in one go. The lower body suddenly felt cold. He tried to bend his knees but couldn't move because Zhenya was standing between his legs.

His middle finger poked the hole over and over, carefully reaching inside. The thumb gently caresses and massages the inner thigh. Zhenya's hair felt itchy between his legs. The penis cannot withstand strong stimulation and begins to stand erect. Not long after, a feeling like it was about to explode came over him.

The erect column of flesh touched Zhenya's forehead. He raised his head to look at Kwon Taek Joo's swaving flesh and then ran his nose straight across the surface of the penis all the way to the glans.

Zhenya gently sucked the pink glans and then let go. Kwon Taek Joo's face grimaced. The lower part of his body vibrated as if electricity was flowing through it. Zhenya looked up at Kwon Taek Joo and stuck out his tongue, seemingly touching the glans. Kwon Taek Joo looked up and waited. His stomach slowly sagged, breathing seemed more difficult.

Zhenya lowered his head and suddenly opened his mouth to take in Kwon Taek Joo's entire penis. The soft tongue wraps around the glans and then wraps around the entire body. The sensitive glans is sucked and rubbed inside the mouth, as if it were swallowed into the throat. The sweetness and happiness made him sigh.

"ugh...hm.."

Zhenya moved his head up and down and caressed Kwon Taek Joo's lower abdomen. The penis covered in saliva was pressed close to the lips and slowly squirted out, then sucked all the way to the base. Kwon Taek Joo's hands turned white. Zhenya raised his head again with the head of the penis in his mouth, then he clamped his lips and sucked on it. Kwon Taek Joo lay down on the table to enjoy the ecstatic pleasure.

"Ah, uhm, oh...!"

Zhenya licked and sucked the head continuously, feeling like something was about to be sucked out. Then he suddenly opened his mouth and sucked Kwon Taek Joo's penis all the way to the base. Zhenya's neck also appears to bulge where the glans passes. He couldn’t stand it anymore.

Kwon Taek Joo raised his upper body and grabbed Zhenya's hair. Then he lifted his lower body and slammed it into his mouth. The action was rough, but the guy still bit and sucked the muscle without letting go even when it hit his throat and Zhenya even reached out to widen the small hole in his butt.

His head spun as he looked at the guy's face obediently placed between his legs, his pulse quickened, his eyes flashed endlessly and the feeling of wanting to ejaculate came rushing in. Kwon Taek Joo pushed Zhenya's face away. No, that's what he intended. But Zhenya held Kwon Taek Joo's thigh tightly and did not let go. As the eruption was about to come, Kwon Taek Joo's thigh muscles trembled.

“Hm.. uhm, let go. ah..uh! Ahhh...!”

In the end, he failed to push Zhenya away. The genitals were pushed to the limit, spurting out a large amount of semen. He gritted his teeth and exclaimed. Zhenya clearly and slowly swallowed down Kwon Taek Joo's semen. The guy gently sucked the sticky spots on the alans then looked at Kwon Taek Joo who was grimacing and grinned.

[Taek Joo, I like this.]

[Ugh... I told you to stop, this crazy guy...]

[Why do you scold others after eating a full meal? You've enjoyed yourself to your heart's content so now eat this.]

With the sound of the zipper coming down, the guy's penis fell out. Smelling the semen, the piece of meat wriggled and rubbed its head against the hole. Kwon Taek Joo closed his eyes tightly as if resigned.

Zhenya was used to pressing Kwon Taek Joo down and then expanding his body and lying on top. He also likes the same position, lying flat or on his side, but the problem is the location. His bare back was tense as he continuously rubbed against the table surface. Kwon Taek Joo groaned as he was overwhelmed without a chance to rest before he could push Zhenya away.

[uhm ha..ha...! Wait a minute. My back hurts so much, let's go somewhere else...]

[You have to be polite when eating.]

He didn't understand why Zhenya persisted to the end. He repeatedly inserted and pushed out without a condom. The mixture of semen and gel filling his belly made a slurping sound every time the skin and flesh mixed. Every time the penis was inserted, a thick white mucus gushed out, running down the table and dripping onto the floor. Just like that, it gathered and created a small puddle.

"…"

Kwon Taek Joo tiredly fell asleep until morning and then remembered that there was an interview that day. He immediately opened his eyes and opened all the windows for ventilation. He tried to eliminate the odor by turning on all the ventilation fans in the house, regardless of the bathroom and kitchen.

But the problem is the stains on the carpet. No matter how much he cleaned it. it showed no signs of disappearing. Kwon Taek Joo thought it would fade, but it quickly dried and turned white. Zhenya just calmly and gently kissed the back of Kwon Taek Joo's neck as he struggled to erase the traces of guilt.

Looking at the large table in the living room. memories of that day came back to his mind. The table touched his bare skin, the air heated up quickly, and the rising humidity and scent seemed to be fully revived. Kwon Taek Joo clicked his tongue and turned back.

He specifically stopped by the mansion because he wanted to know why Zhenya's stay in Russia was so long. Inbound business parcels are usually delivered to the embassy office. On days Zhenya didn't go to work, his assistant moved them all back to the mansion. Even when acting like an asshole, Zhenya still stops by this place regularly to check mail and schedules. That is also the minimum effort to maintain his status as an ambassador.

Kwon Taek Joo went to the office on the second floor to check the letters he had collected in the past. He did not know whether there would be any important party or event held in Russia. But no matter how hard he searched, nothing particularly stood out. After that, Kwon Taek Joo turned on the computer in the office. He calmly entered the password and then opened the real-time update schedule. Sure enough, it was empty 15 days ago.

However, there are a number of events that will be held before the Mid-Autumn Festival in 10 days. At least that means Zhenya will be back. No, is that really so? The term of office of ambassadors is not fixed. Usually it only lasts for a period of 1 to 2 years. There are also many cases of being

dismissed midway or being appointed to other important positions and suddenly returning to the country.

Zhenya has reluctantly become the Russian ambassador to Korea, so he can give it up at any time. A person who is only interested in pursuing pleasure, if tempted by something else, Zhenya certainly won't look back.

“.. I don't like that."

Kwon Taek Joo mumbled dissatisfied and turned off the computer. When he was about to turn back, he saw an old Korean conversation book on the bookshelf. Ambassadors who passed through this place may have left it for their successors, but it seems unlikely that it was Zhenya's.

Thinking back, in the past year, Zhenya hadn't spoken a word of Korean, He didn't even say the usual greetings. Even when having to communicate with his mother and other Koreans, Zhenya insisted on using only Russian. He didn't even say a few words, and surprisingly everything was fine. Everyone knows how to bring him what he needs.

Kwon Taek Joo's mother is the same. When the two meet, they still only say what each wants to say. When Kwon Taek Joo happened to be with them, he became an interpreter. One time he was so upset that he complained to Zhenya.

[If you want to continue living here, learn Korean.]

[Why me?]

[That must be the case for me to live comfortably. I feel comfortable too.]

[Korean is as complicated and difficult as Koreans. It's strange how the same word has different meanings. Not once or twice did I misunderstand the meaning when using translation software. Learning such a language is ineffective.]

[So will I live without literacy forever?]

Zhenya shrugged with a puzzled expression.

[You're not here because you like this country, Taek Joo.]

Why do you feel sad then?

Zhenya did not choose Korea. Just because Kwon Taek Joo is in Korea, he also settled here. Once the interest in him was gone, there was no longer any reason for Zhenya to stay here.

(He totally did choose Korea because Taek Joo is in Korea. He’s trying to deny it.)

Kwon Taek Joo ruffled his messy hair and left the mansion. There's one more place to visit.

—

Assistant Pavel Menshikov squinted his eyes and glanced at Kwon Taek Joo. A moment later, he opened his mouth.

[Mr. Kwon Taek Joo, right? Kwon Taek Joo-sshi.]

[Yes, I am Kwon Taek Joo.]

He didn’t know why the name Kwon Taek Joo had a prefix, Mr./sshi, but he obediently nodded. While arriving at the mansion, he planned to stop by the embassy. Consular staff must be the ones who have the best grasp of the situation in Russia more than anywhere else.

The embassy specializes in foreign affairs, they have no choice but to react sensitively to the international situation. That includes the political, economic and social conditions of the host country. The Bogdanov family holds considerable power in Russia's political and business circles. If anything happens to them, the embassy cannot help but know. Furthermore, even in name only, Zhenya has the status of an ambassador so they will have to respond promptly to Zhenya's personal issues. If he was planning to quit his ambassadorship, his assistant Pavel Menshikov would obviously be the first to know.

[Yes. What is someone busier than the ambassador doing here without contacting me first?]

He is sarcastic and frankly wary.

A year ago, after Kwon Taek Joo was falsely accused and wanted, his mother's worries grew stronger. So he registered his name at the Russian embassy. Zhenya was the one who suggested it and his superiors also allowed it. Of course, that was only in name, so this was Kwon Taek Joo's first time going to the embassy. Zhenya said he took care of everything, but the assistant's attitude wasn't very good.

Kwon Taek Joo's position at the embassy is secretary and personal servant of the consul general, so now, he decided to stay loyal to that role so as not to be suspected in vain.

[There is a document that the ambassador asked me to deliver. I contacted him but he didn't pick up.]

[If he was an ambassador, he would have returned home a while ago. You're a secretary and you don't know that?]

Every word has sharp thorns. Kwon Taek Joo tried to lift the corners of his mouth.

[Are not. He said he would come back in about ten days, but it's been half a month already.]

[Hmm... I was definitely slow to grasp the information.]

Pavel Menshikov gently nodded and added a few meaningless words.

[Well, that's not a simple problem to solve. Maybe you should be careful because this could be a big event for Russia.]

Kwon Taek Joo was confused and didn't understand what he was talking about. However, it seems that the assistant knew the purpose of Zhenya's visit to Russia. Kwon Taek Joo couldn't ask what that purpose was, but he wanted to confirm one thing.

[Just because of that, he came home late?]

[If not, what reason is there? Are there important documents? I can receive and forward it for you.]

Pavel Menshikov suddenly reached out his hand. Kwon Taek Joo felt like he should step back.

[No, since he said he would receive it directly, I will do so.]

[Then you should come back later.]

[Yes. So here we go today.]

Kwon Taek Joo bowed and left the embassy. As soon as he turned his back. naked eyes followed him. It wasn't just one or two glances.

He walked away ignoring it then suddenly turned his head to look back. The heads of the people looking at Kwon Taek Joo through the window all disappeared. Some people couldn't avoid it in time and bumped into flower vases or awkwardly looked away.

Even though the vast majority of staff are Russian, would a visiting Korean be that surprising? Even Joseon people meeting foreigners for the first time probably wouldn't look at them with such curiosity.

Kwon Taek Joo tilted his head and took another step. The embassy staff who were once again observing 'Kwon Taek Joo' turned around and avoided the window.

5.9 Side Story

The boring afternoon slowly passed. NIS field agents rarely come to work at headquarters. Because there's nothing to do. At most, it's just handling the costs related to conducting activities and writing reports on the results, sometimes Kwon Taek Joo also writes reports. He even had all his expenses approved before the vacation. It's a natural habit that develops because you never know when a new task will be assigned.

Kwon Taek Joo nonchalantly flipped through the desk calendar. He couldn't remember the last time he took a vacation this long. It became a daily habit for him to be called up when he was on leave. At least Zhenya intervened and thanks to that he could relax in his busy life. Kwon Taek Joo keeps nagging Zhenya, but it's true.

Who knows when there will be another excuse to take a break like now? If he didn't want to go to work and feel unfair at the same time, he should have enjoyed himself properly now, but there was

nothing to enjoy. He didn't sleep well and each day was boring. What have you done in the past? Usually, Kwon Taek Joo doesn't even have enough time to rest, and recently he hasn't had time to be bored because he's been spending all his time with Zhenya.

There's nothing to do. He rummaged through this and that and then turned on the internal message. Kwon Taek Joo tries to talk to Yoon Jong Woo easily.

"What are you doing?"

Yoon Jong Woo read the message after a while. Late answer.

"Work, nothing else."

"Want to go for a drink tonight?"

"Can’t. I have to go boss hunting tonight."

"2D Boss, right?"

"It's 3D?"

"You have to eat, too."

"Can’t. Even if I starve. I still have to do it. If senior isn't going to help, then don't talk to me anymore. I really have to leave work early today."

"Really? Then let me help."

"Really?"

“Really.”

Kwon Taek Joo answered while turning on his laptop. He borrowed it from Yoon Jong Woo around the end of lunch. On the desktop there is a game where he calls himself a waste. After entering the ID and password, Kwon Taek Joo pressed the login button. However, a message appears to confirm the password. He tried again and the notification line continued to appear.

Kwon Taek Joo reopened the message.

"Did you change your password?"

Yoon Jong Woo read the message and was silent for a while. It seemed like he could hear the shaking of his head through the computer screen.

Not long after, messages from him flew in one after another.

"What are you doing, senior? You said you would help."

"Yes, I will help you upgrade your level."

"Ah, don't!"

"What is a password?"

"You think I'll tell you?"

Yoon Jong Woo rarely shows strength. Kwon Taek Joo tried again by slightly changing the current password. He successfully logged in after 3 tries. He just replaced the exclamation mark with a hook in the existing password. This loose guy is working at the National Intelligence Agency.

It appears that the login notification also goes to the mobile app associated with the account. The normally silent message window blinked non-stop.

“Senior.”

“Senior?”

“Senior?”

"Teacher, please answer me.”

"What's wrong? You said you were busy."

"Do you think your hair color is much more beautiful?"

"There are a lot of items I've never seen before."

"Don't touch my child."

"I said I would raise the level."

Kwon Taek Joo did not respond any further after finishing that sentence and continuously pretended not to know the message window was flashing. He was browsing the updated user interface when his phone rang. The caller was definitely Yoon Jong Woo. As soon as he pressed the listen button, he heard a gasp.

"Why? You said you were busy?"

-Can we eat together? I must leave before 11 o'clock.

Kwon Taek Joo immediately logged out of the game and teased Yoon Jong Woo.

“Senior said it's been a long time since he invited me to dinner, so why do you have to do it like this? Must you turn me into a bad person?"

–Why must we invite you to dinner today?

"Because I want to drink today."

What a selfish statement. Yoon Jona Woo's breathing became more rapid. Although he couldn't see it, Kwon Taek Joo could tell that he was pulling his hair and shaking.

"I work here." He hung up the phone. The phone still has no new messages.

After work, Kwon Taek Joo made a reservation at a nearby meat shop. Yoon Jong Woo grumbled and asked if he was going to buy pork, and then he ordered pork belly. His eyes continuously glanced at

the laptop turned on next to him. The game automatically runs on the screen. What's so interesting about fighting and gaining experience? Kwon Taek Joo is completely incomprehensible.

"Hey, it's cooled down."

"I'm eating."

Leaving the meat that was about to burn and putting the bloody meat into his mouth, it was as if Yoon Jong Woo didn't even look at the grill. Is this what it feels like to be tired of being a disobedient teenager?

Kwon Taek Joo looked at the boy, then rolled up a book and handed it to Yoon Jong Woo. "Ah." Yoon Jong Woo opened his mouth without doubt. He seemed to have forgotten who his opponent was because he was just looking at the game screen. His cheeks were puffed up as he chewed diligently. But not long after, the jaw movements began to slow down, and even the boy's calm face turned red as if he was about to explode. That's because the rolls only contain Cheongyang chili and raw garlic, but no meat.

"Ah! Ah!”

Yoon Jong Woo covered his mouth

awkwardly. Urgently looking for water, he grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's glass. There was no way the burning mouth could know it was soju. Yoon Jong Woo shouted without a sound. Kwon Taek Joo gave him an empty bowl to spit out.

However, Yoon Jong Woo stubbornly shook his head and swallowed what was in his mouth. Thinking about your parents being farmers, you can't throw away even a single grain of rice

No, how should he say it? Because of self torture, his gentle eyes were filled with tears. The tip of the nose also turned red.

"That's it. Don't look away while you're eating, okay?"

"Ha, ha. You did that on purpose, right?"

"But maybe it was a mistake."

Reply shamelessly. Yoon Jong Woo grumbled with resentful eyes.

"If you were in combat, you would have died of poisoning. He was confirmed dead after drinking the water. "

"Anyway, there's no way I'm going to the scene."

"Then just do as you wish?"

"There's nothing wrong with that. From the beginning, if it weren't for the seniors..."

Yoon Jong Woo, in anger, suddenly expressed regret. Kwon Taek Joo shared.

"There is no one I trust more than you. I might die alone without a partner, if that's the case then you should provide rear support or cover. What is a good partner for?”

"Ah, really! Then that day I will submit my resignation"

Yoon Jong Woo's attitude only made Kwon Taek Joo tease him even more. He soothed the boy, asking if he wanted to eat cold noodles.

"Cold noodles and water."

Yoon Jong Woo, who was fuming from the spicy food, quickly relieved his mood. He didn't want to be fooled anymore so he obediently closed the laptop.

He didn’t know how long it's been since the two of them sat facing each other like this outside of lunch. Kwon Taek Joo often has to go on business trips, so if he doesn't spend time alone, it's difficult to meet him. In the past, even when it was difficult to arrange time, they still met regularly, but recently it's almost impossible. It's all because of Zhenya. I don't know when it was natural for Zhenya to spend time outside of work.

"Senior. Are you lonely these days?"

Yoon Jong Woo suddenly asked, his eyes narrowed.

"What? So unexpected."

"It's strange that you're suddenly so muddy. Should I arrange for you to go on a blind date?"

"Do you know any girls?"

"If that doesn't work, then my sister won't either"

"Why would you sell your whole family just because you don't want to drink with your superior?”

Funny kid, he even drank alcohol today. Yoon Jong Woo quickly filled the empty glass.

"Who knows? What if it was fate? If my sister can't have it then there's my cousin, if she says she doesn't like it then even..."

"You want to cut ties with your family, right?"

"Not why? What about senior? Guaranteed retirement age, being a civil servant earns a lot of money. is tall, has a beautiful body and a beautiful face. People have a bit of a stiff and dirty personality... How about that? Why don't you give in to your lover?”

"You have a talent for pretending to give compliments, right?"

Yoon Jong Woo secretly looked to see if he was being scolded any more. Kwon Taek Joo sipped the glass of wine and drank it all. He looked dissatisfied at Yoon Jong Woo then picked up the bottle of wine. Yoon Jong Woo held out his glass more sincerely than ever.

"How about you? Not dating? Good times."

"Looking like this, I'm still a celibate."

"What does that have to do with dating?"

"If you date, you must get married."

"Definitely..."

"Wow, bad guy. Are love and marriage two different things?

"Of course it's different. Do you know if the other person wants to marry you or not?

"If you really love, you won't have time to measure those things, right? I don't want to let that person go home. If we want to be together forever, then we'll get married."

"I don't want to let that person go home, if

that person wants to continue to be with

me then just do that. Don't get married blindly. I'm also not saying that marriage is unrealistic. Civil servant? Are you a civil servant? I can't tell that person when I'm going to leave and every day I receive a life allowance higher than the basic salary, what do I do where, I go out more days than I stay at home. If a person gives birth, he or she must raise the child alone. If he or she dies, it is unlikely that the country will find the body, let alone treat it as a meritorious person. Which girl do you say accepts?"

Yoon Jong Woo's lips pursed. He couldn't argue because it was all right. Kwon Taek Joo poured all the remaining wine into his glass.

"If people like us confide, it would violate work rules, and keeping secrets would be cheating in marriage."

"Senior is right. To be honest, I'm a bit embarrassed. Well, we're not here for the money. It's all for the sake of the country that we exhaust our bodies and our spirits to work."

"It's not too late now. You can run away."

"Anyway, I'm a celibate person. It's not like the seniors who work at the scene."

Yoon Jong Woo muttered and then asked a rather serious question.

"Senior, how long do you plan to work?"

"I don't know."

"Didn't your mother force you to get married? She only has one senior, her child."

"Why not? If a man gets married too late, the baby born will not be healthy. In your mother's mind, she must have thought about getting married and embracing you top"

"I wonder if senior is celibate?"

"No? Haven't you ever thought about that?”

"Hmm... What about finding a more stable job now? If so, the reason for not getting married will disappear."

"Is that as easy as it sounds?"

"If you think it's easy, it's easy."

"Find a job that suits your personality."

"As long as you don't call me to the scene, it's okay.

"I just trust you...”

"Ah, don't say that anymore."

There's no need to cry when your senior says he believes in you.

Cold noodles were brought out. Yoon Jong Woo quickly added vinegar and mustard with a sullen face and then cut into bite sized pieces. He intended to eat just out of politeness, and also because Kwon Taek Joo had already ordered. But as soon as he turned away, he picked up half of the noodles and slurped it down. A bowl of cold noodles was gone in the blink of an eye.

"Ah, I should have ordered regular cold noodles. So little."

"There's a cold noodle dessert."

"Lie.”

Kwon Taek Joo clicked his tongue and ordered another bowl of cold noodles, 2 portions of meat and 2 bottles of soju. Yoon Jong Woo's expression looks very happy. If he invited him, he would eat as deliciously as he does now, but why did he refuse so strongly just now?

Yoon Jong Woo opened the soju bottle first and filled Kwon Taek Joo's glass.

"Honestly, if you were a senior, wouldn't the security companies invite you back? The Blue House is also very possible."

"Such things are very complicated and I can't do it my way. And to be honest, it's just there to create an atmosphere, there's no need to exert any effort."

"I don't understand why you want to work hard. If you want to waste your body like that, go abroad and make more money."

"The reason is not money. You have to at least think that you're patriotic to feel less guilty. You can't harm others for money because you will doubt yourself."

"Then let's open a gym and exercise for a living.”

"That doesn't feel realistic."

"Wow, that's really strange."

"Seniors like this make my mother feel very uneasy. Instead of having a daughter-in-law or a grandson, I think she just wants her senior to settle down."

"If we get married, can we be stable?"

"At least you will think of others when using your body. Even if it is your body, it will not completely belong to you anymore, but also to your family members. Family is like rabbits, how can you step on it?”

Let's see, Kwon Taek Joo never thought about that. You can't imagine it because you've never experienced it. If you have family. If the number of people he has to protect increases, will he really change? Won't you feel uncomfortable about a life that only pursues safety? Just being someone's husband and father. Can personal and family responsibility quench his thirst?

Kwon Taek Joo thought for a moment then burst out laughing. He suddenly remembered Zhenya. The bastard's existence was deeply ingrained in his brain and blocked even his wandering thoughts.

That's right, my theme is family like rabbits. He'd better give up that idea before being eaten by that boy for his stupid actions.

Yoon Jong Woo said why. He shook his head as if nothing happened.

"But is your mother still healthy? Long time no see. In the past, I often followed my senior to eat."

"If not, my mother would have talked about you already. If you have time, let's take you home"

"Eh, but why didn't you tell me?"

"Ah... My mother has a close friend these days."

"So what?"

"If you come, he won't like it. You probably don't feel very comfortable, right?"

"Why does my mother's best friend hate you? What do you mean 'not very comfortable'?

"Uh, that's what it is."

Kwon Taek Joo answered vaguely. Cold noodles and meat were brought on time. Yoon Jong Woo quickly turned his attention to cold noodles. Kwon Taek Joo puts the meat on the grill. Grill and cut. Yoon Jong Woo was so focused on eating that he couldn't ask any more questions.

After grilling the meat, he put down the tongs. Yoon Jong Woo had just finished eating cold noodles and quickly filled his glass.

"Can I ask you a question?"

"What is it?"

"I've been curious for a long time. What relationship do you have with that Russian?"

Kwon Taek Joo stopped at the silly question. He tilted the wine glass, drank the soju in one gulp and put the empty glass down.

"What kind of relationship, just back and forth. He and I almost killed each other, but in the end he did something to help... I occasionally meet that kid because he is the ambassador to Korea. 'That's the kind of relationship"

"Wow, that relationship is really scary. How can you be friends with a murderer like that..."

Yoon Jong Woo's soft voice gradually subsided. Kwon Taek Joo wondered why the boy suddenly noticed, and then a random sentence was spewed out right after.

"But senior is not so different."

"Hey, that's so rude. Why compare me to that guy?"

"Well, he's human first."

It seems like the relationship with Zhenya is so strange that even the naive Yoon Jong Woo is suspicious. At first glance, it is difficult to guess what their relationship is like and it is even more difficult to understand if you know the inside story. How many times had he almost died at Zhenya's hands? Yet now, just by making eye contact with that guy, he is already attached to him, not knowing where his life will go.

Then the story of Yoon Jong Woo's family and neighbors, news about manager Lim and dissatisfaction in office life became the topic of discussion. While talking and drinking another glass, two bottles of soju quickly ran out. Should I call more? Kwon Taek Joo shook his head.

"No, you go home now."

He didn’t know if it was because of surprise or not, but Yoon Jong Woo's eyes opened wide. He took out his phone to check the time immediately. Still not enough, he looked up at the clock hanging on the wall.

"It's not even 10 o'clock yet?"

"If you want to go home, it will take time. Playing games is good, but if possible, take a shower and finish the housework."

Kwon Taek Joo's advice couldn't help but startle Yoon Jong Woo.

"Senior, I wonder if you are following me? Did you leave the camera at my house?"

"I don't need to do those things, it's too obvious, right?"

Yoon Jong Woo rolled his eyes and stood up without hesitation. After that, he maintained a neat posture and bowed seriously

Then I will go back first. Thank you for providing food today. I love you, senior."

He obnoxiously dropped the heart with his hand and ran away, looking back as he ran to see if he was caught again. Kwon Taek Joo watched Yoon Jong Woo run away and bursted out laughing.

The time was almost 10 pm. Not wanting to go home right away, Kwon Taek Joo called the staff who were cleaning the next table.

"Here, turn off the fire and give me another bottle of soju."

He decided to spend a little more time alone. It's been a long time since Kwon Taek Joo drank alone at a place other than work. How have you lived lately? After entering NIS, comfort disappeared from life. After completing this job, another job awaits. The number of times moving directly from one work place to the next is not rare. During his days off, he only sleeps and replenishes his physical strength.

During the early stages of his appointment, Kwon Taek Joo often split his time to meet friends, college seniors and juniors, and comrades from when he was a special forces soldier. At that time, he still had time and was full of enthusiasm for things like loyalty and friendship. The problem is that in any meeting, the thing they are most curious about is each other's current situation. Only once or twice did he try to cover it up, but trying to lie only made him feel uncomfortable.

After leaving the rookie title, Kwon Taek Joo's workload skyrocketed and he was never able to rest when everyone else rested. So he could hardly participate in important events such as weddings, funerals, council meetings, and baby showers. He has also never spent a full holiday at home.

For a while, Kwon Taek Joo only lived by saying sorry. Everyone says it's okay, but a relationship that only involves apologizing constantly cannot be maintained normally. Contact became sparse and he gradually began to distance himself from everyone. Kwon Taek Joo has lost his phone many times during actions so he has almost no contact numbers left. He teased Zhenya that he didn't have any friends, but Kwon Taek Joo himself isn't much different now. If he dies like this, the story 'He's dead' will spread in the future. He wasn't worried that his funeral would be bland. If the body was still intact, it would be lucky.

Kwon Taek Joo laughed bitterly and drank continuously. Being alone, he has more random thoughts. Until recently he hadn't had time to think about those things. The intensity of work is still too much and interferes with his dense daily life.

"Always grumbling."

Zhenya complains that he's always just working, but at times like this there's no news from him at all. After all, what is the big event in Russia?

Suddenly the wine was so tasteless. He thought about cigarettes so he left the restaurant. Kwon Taek Joo bought a pack of cigarettes that he usually smoked at a nearby convenience store. Lighting it, taking a deep breath, he checked the cigarette pack. It originally tasted like this so he was bored, or he was already used to handmade cigars.

Just one year. How much influence did Zhenya have on him? Kwon Taek Joo didn't notice it when he was still around but after Zhenya disappeared, he felt it with such certainty that it was unbelievable.

Kwon Taek Joo finished a cigarette and was about to light another when his cell phone rang quietly.

A strange number appeared on the phone screen. If it's normal, guessing it's an advertising call and Kwon Taek Joo doesn't have to accept it. And in this Korean land. There is no gang big enough to kidnap Zhenya. Maybe someone called the wrong number.

Then he realized it was almost midnight and there could be no advertising calls. If it's not a close relationship or urgent work, there's no reason to ignore rudeness at such a late hour.

He touched the answer button with the decision to pick up the phone.

"Yes"

- Kwon Taek Joo?

The sudden questioning voice was quite familiar. But this was not a number in the phonebook, so Kwon Taek Joo was not caught off guard.

"Right. Who is this?"

-Wow, is that right? It's me, Chanwoo.

Chanwoo. Kang Chanwoo. He remembered the familiar name. Surely there is such a person among his university classmates. He is sociable and outgoing, taking on the role of faculty representative since his first year. Kwon Taek Joo remembers hearing the news that he got married a few years ago.

Even though he wasn't very close, he suddenly wondered if something had happened?

"Yes. Long time no see."

-It's been almost 10 years, the world has changed. Still, you're still alive, right? No one has been able to contact him, so there's been a lot of talk about not seeing him for several years. But no news means good news. How are you?

Talking a lot is still the same as before. Obviously, without asking, we know what they're talking about Kwon Taek Joo. During his time in college, he brought about an unexpected rumor. He even dropped out of a good university, so all the baseless rumors spread everywhere. Unknowingly, he has become the main character of a fairy tale that begins with 'Once upon a time there was a senior...

In the meantime. The thing that made Kwon Taek Joo more curious was how Kang Chan Woo found out his phone number. End stage occupational disease.

"Unlike what you expected, I'm still healthy. Are you calling to ask that?"

-This kid, what are you talking about? It's not that I'm looking forward to it, I'm just worried. There is no reason to dropout of school like that. How are you these days? Are you married?

"No, I'm busy working to make a living."

- What are you doing?

"Uhm. You don't need to know."

–Ha. The character Kwon Taek Joo remains unchanged. Must check it out, right? Everyone is curious about you.

"Everyone lives the same way, so why are you curious?"

-You don't really know that's why you're asking? Want to see if Kwon Taek Joo will become a normal uncle. Actually, before this Mid-Autumn Festival, we decided to meet each other. But it's really difficult to keep time.

"But.."

- But what? You come too. No matter what you do, you will rest before and after the holidays.

Kang Chan Woo quickly added another word when Kwon Taek Joo was about to immediately refuse.

-I don't know about other times, but this time you must appear.

What does that mean? Kwon Taek Joo majored in mechanical engineering at a technical university. Most of his classmates were male and he didn't care where they lived or what they did. He was never curious. So what is the reason to definitely attend?

When the doubt reached its climax, Kang Chan Woo continued to speak.

-I heard that Yuna Hyun came. She's about to get married. Let's meet a little bit before that.

Kwon Taek Joo suddenly remembered another person he had forgotten about.

5.10 Side Story

"Kwon Taek Joo"

He raised his head because of the call. The classmates who ate together also paid attention to the spokesperson. Ambient noise disappears.

The person who appeared in front of the crowd was Yuna Hyun. First-year student in the department of information and mechanical engineering at a Korean university, where there are only three female students out of 150 students. Because of the so-called "beauty of a technical university", even before enrolling, Yuna Hyun received the attention of her seniors, classmates and juniors. Even on that day, stories related to her were being discussed. Those who always considered her a subject simultaneously remained silent and watched the two people's conversation.

"I'm Yuna Hyun."

She tilted her head to introduce. At that time, Kwon Taek Joo entered his second semester. It's not like he didn't know her when everyone around him mentioned Yuna Hyun. It's just that he doesn't care as much as others.

"Yes?"

"Can I sit here?"

"It's up to you."

Kwon Taek Joo superficially agreed. Everyone eats their portion anyway, so it doesn't matter who sits next to who. Yuna put the tray down opposite Kwon Taek Joo. It wasn't until then that others in the crowd began to ask questions properly. What kind of liberal arts are you studying, have you completed all the assignments for your core courses, where are the friends you used to hang out with, etc. Gossip.

Yuna answered moderately and stared at

Kwon Taek Joo. He focused on the meal and did not participate in any conversations. He was completely indifferent to the fact that a person was sitting in front of him and staring at him.

"This two-person exercise, I want to do it with you."

The surroundings became quiet again after the unexpected announcement. The crowd rolled their eyes and watched the situation carefully. Some of them had sinister smiles and others were disappointed.

Kwon Taek Joo finally looked Yuna Hyun straight in the eyes.

"With me? Why?"

"You're the one with the highest score. I'm curious how the class leader does his homework."

Yuna's tone was quite aggressive. It's not about doing homework together, it's about giving challenges. Kwon Taek Joo learns that she ranked second in her class in her first semester. Even if he didn't care, the others were still making noise so he couldn't help but know. However, he had no intention or spirit of competing with her. For Kwon Taek Joo, grades are just a matter of rank, and rank has nothing to do with him.

So he refused Yuna's offer.

"Sorry but please find someone else."

“Why?”

"I feel like if I can't do it my way. I cannot fit in with others."

The decisive answer surprised Yuna. The vast majority do not want to work in groups with passive people, because the probability of having to work increases. Kwon Taek Joo is different. Instead of looking for a team member with ability and strong arguments, he prefers a member who is suitable for him. That way, even though the workload increases, in return you will feel comfortable.

Kwon Taek Joo said go ahead and stood up with an empty plate, whispering behind him. He also felt Yuna Hyun's eyes following him closely. However, there was no other way because he was not interested.

Since that day, Yuna suddenly appeared anywhere and asked to do homework together. That scene was witnessed by many people and the behind-the-scenes story about whether the two were flirting or dating became noisy. Most of them are poor quality rumors.

Female students at technical universities always receive a lot of attention. They are treated like princesses in every word. The boys compete with each other endlessly but they will degrade the girls with dirty words if they are rejected. They are especially interested in the love life of girls, whether they have a boyfriend or not, when they met, when they feel like they will break up, and every time they have free time, they chatter. On days when girls walk or arrive late with a strange man, they exchange bad stories and jokes behind their backs.

As a female student. It is difficult to focus on studying. If you get high scores like Yuna Hyun, you will get more attention. You are criticized if you get along with everyone because they will think you are flattering your seniors. And vice versa, if you draw a certain line, you will be considered cruel.

Kwon Taek Joo is the only person in the department who doesn't care about the girls. No matter how noisy the surroundings were about those girls, he didn't say another word. When he was in his first year, he lived in harmony with his classmates and was respected by his seniors due to the influence of a family environment that had been soldiers from generation to generation.

However, Kwon Taek Joo also completely dislikes topics related to women. Stories originating from that illusion were not interesting to him. But he seemed very special to his female classmates.

Is that why Yuna Hyun still persists in following Kwon Taek Joo? From meals at school, when going to the library, when listening to lectures or even when he was playing basketball on the soccer field. She watched the match without interest in the sunlight, sweating profusely and asked to do her homework together.

Yuna Hyun studied so well that she entered the school as valedictorian. Above all, she is beautiful, strong and has good

sociability. It is natural for such a person to receive everyone's attention. However, the problem is that the more we talk, the more things change. The bad rumors are as much as the compliments for her. Just the fact that she followed Kwon Taek Joo cannot be imagined that there would be countless behind-the-scenes stories being woven. Even though he knew that, he couldn't continue to refuse.

At that time, starting with 2-person exercises, Kwon Taek Joo often accompanied Yuna. Exercise comes first and the two seem very comfortable with each other. The story of the two dating was spread publicly, but that didn't matter. Yuna Hyun also seemed more comfortable just talking about this and that with her group mates. In fact, when rumors spread that she and Kwon Taek Joo were dating, the number of people criticizing her decreased significantly.

If you compare college life to a marathon, the two are very good running partners. They always take turns holding first and second place and often do homework together. Unlike Kwon Taek Joo's

prediction, the two people's opinions are quite consistent. During the exam period, anyone who comes to the library must reserve a seat in advance. Most of their meals were at the academy, but when it was too late, they ate late at a familiar store in front of the school.

But when they leave school, everyone takes time for themselves. They have never met privately outside. Kwon Taek Joo is the same, and there are extracurricular classes for Yuna almost every day. She seems to not only pay for her own tuition, but also directly earn living expenses. Kwon Taek Joo sometimes works part-time to earn pocket money, but he usually spends the rest of his time exercising. Sometimes he goes out with friends and goes to the game room or billiard room. The two are similar in many ways, but not exactly.

When the first semester of the second year begins, more than half of the motivation disappears. That's because Kwon Taek Joo is preparing to enlist.

It's good to join the army when you're young, but you want to be more cautious. If I go, I like a place where I can experience it in a meaningful way.

The most received question around that time was "When did you go to military service?" Yuna Hyun is no exception.

"Aren't you going to serve?"

"It's frustrating because I can't reply to everyone at once. I will go. Of course I have to go."

"When?"

"Hmm.. After 2nd year?"

"Very good."

"What?"

"That's it. I'm ready to come back here. And you?"

"Let's go."

Study until late at night and then go home

together. The long staircase connecting the central library to the main door is illuminated by the dim light of a street lamp. No human voices were heard, the surroundings were quiet and insects could be heard from afar. Normally, they would talk about this and that, but that day, Yuna Hyun was silent. I don't know if something is wrong or not, but her face is not very bright. At times like these, Kwon Taek Joo is not the first to start a conversation. He just kept silent and pretended not to know.

When reaching the mezzanine, Yuna Hyun who was walking in front suddenly turned around and looked back.

"Do you want to go on a date with me?"

(No, No he doesn’t want to.”

"Is this a new trick? Falling in love with your opponent to confuse them and take the top position?”

How silly. Yuna Hyun giggled as if she was surprised. Kwon Taek Joo took that mild reaction as a joke and ignored it.

He passed Yuna and went down the stairs first. He didn’t understand why she didn't quickly follow. Then suddenly, Yuna ran to close the distance and punched Kwon Taek Joo's back heartlessly. What's wrong? He looked back at her giggling.

"Let's go on a date, Kwon Taek Joo."

It was too dark so he couldn't see Yuna's face clearly, but her cheeks seemed to be turning red.

(Haha! She only got close to him by asking to do homework together, a new way to get close then ask them out.)

5.11 Side Story

"Is it a date?"

Kwon Taek Joo sighed and sat down on the sofa. He threw away the phone that he kept picking up as a habit. He deliberately took a deep breath and then exhaled, but the discomfort in his chest still did not go away. His mind confused, he lay down on his back, his eyes vaguely closing and opening continuously. The high ceiling seems to be rotating slowly.

After talking on the phone with classmate Kang Chan Woo, Kwon Taek Joo drank two more bottles alone. He enjoyed such a normal time.

It was too late at night so he didn't go home but went straight to Zhenya's house. His steps naturally went in that direction. He hadn't done anything all day but he was tired.

It's all because of damn Zhenya. He said he was only going back to Russia for a few days but didn't tell me why and didn't think about returning after 15 days. If it's late, at least contact me. Making him so worried. Even with pets or stray dogs and cats on the street, Zhenya doesn't seem that irresponsible.

If this were a love relationship, this situation would be infuriating. But neither Zhenya nor Kwon Taek Joo have ever openly admitted to dating. Even though most of our free time is spent together and there is no one else but each other, just looking into each other's eyes makes us rush into each other,

isn't that of course a date? More than anything else, Zhenya unashamedly blurted out that he was Zainka and that he was the lover. It shows that Zhenya is also clearly aware of this relationship in that way. Is this something he would do with someone who is not his lover?

(Exactly! They never openly admitted to dating yet they say ‘lover’. Zainka is Taek Joo’s pet name for a rabbit.)

There was a time when Kwon Taek Joo also thought that because Zhenya interfered too much in his work, please get busy or disappear for a bit. In a way, the words have become seeds. But now he's grumbling like this. Dissatisfied with this, dissatisfied with that. Being human is funny.

"I told you to give me your body. The bastard only knows how to talk every day. Damned."

Kwon Taek Joo muttered angrily and scratched his head. He had to get up and shower but he didn't want to move because the sofa was too comfortable.

After a year of traveling, he was very familiar with this house. Kwon Taek Joo feels as comfortable as his room at home. Even when he closed his eyes, he still knew clearly where he was and what was there.

He spent most of his holidays here. The kissing starts as soon as you enter the house or even before that, then it leads to sex like running water. Bedroom, of course, then living room, bathroom, kitchen, ev garage and balcony. He remembered the feeling of the curtains touching his body gently every time he moved.

The next day Kwon Taek Joo lay on the sofa all day. Every time he went to Ajinoki Island. he would lie down in front of the fireplace. After ordering food, he sat down with Zhenya as his cushion. In that state, he reads books or watches TV and waits for food to arrive. Zhenya seems sturdy at first glance, but at those times he also relaxes and his muscles relax and are surprisingly soft.

At such times, Zhenya obediently wrapped his arms around Kwon Taek Joo's waist, rubbing his head against his ears, nape and back. It seemed Zhenya insisted on checking his body odor throughout the night. And of course it never stops there. The hand that was groping around her waist grabbed her stomach and quickly massaged her breasts. The straight nose gradually rubs against the skin on the nape of the neck and ears.

[hey. Haven't you become less attached to that place? Why do you always cling to your chest like this...]

[If there is a lack of affection, will it become like this? So from now on we have to build a very strong relationship.]

[That's not what you mean, kid. Enough, don't rub anymore. It hurts.]

[You like it when I'm touching you, but you always say you hate it. Ah, or do you prefer sucking?]

The guy muttered strange things and then easily put Kwon Taek Joo down on the sofa. Zhenya pulled up the T-shirt and buried his head in it. He lightly brushed her nipples over her clothes, then bit and sucked them. Kwon Taek Joo always finds a way to escape in that situation. Zhenya's harassment

only ended when Kwon Taek Joo's penis lifted its head and sat up. At the same time, the muscles between Zhenya's legs also instantly stiffened.

[This crazy guy, please stop.]

[This is not my intention. It's just a conditioned reflex.]

The person who was brazenly protesting quickly changed his expression and was lovingly called "Taek Joo". When Kwon Taek Joo regained consciousness, he was already under Zhenya. The phone rang mid sentence but no one paid attention. Finally, delivered food is forgotten and left on the doorstep.

Have you been bewitched? Although, it may be related to some extent.

“….”

Kwon Taek Joo was immersed in endless memories when suddenly the phone rang. Thought it was an illusion, but it was clearly the sound from the phone he had thrown away.

He picked up the phone. He lost all strength immediately after confirming the caller. That's his mother's phone. Kwon Taek Joo said he was going to have a drink with Yoon Jong Woo, but it seemed his mother wanted to see when he would return.

He sighed and stroked his face, a feeling of forgotten fatigue suddenly coming to him. Kwon Taek Joo regained composure and answered the phone.

"Yes, mother. Why don't you go to sleep first"

As expected, his mother asked where he was now and if he was still drinking. It was the weekend so she wasn't worried about going to work, but because it was so late, his mother was worried about whether he'd had too much to drink.

"Uhm. I'll be late after drinking it for a while, so I'll sleep at Jong Woo's house today. I'll come home tomorrow. Mom, go to sleep first"

The call ended simply, Kwon Taek Joo threw the phone down. He stroked his face and sighed again.

He shook his head and stood up, then walked back to the bedroom and collapsed on the large bed. The bed supported his tired body without shaking at all.

"It's really big."

Kwon Taek Joo buried his head in the soft pillow and mumbled. He felt Zhenya's body odor from the bed. It must have been a mistake because Zhenya would definitely take off the bed sheets and throw them away as soon as they got dirty.

Fatigue sets in. His eyes quickly dimmed. Whenever he sleeps here, Kwon Taek Joo always sees Zhenya's face as soon as he wakes up. He often went to the kitchen to cook ramen even though he didn't ask or took a shower first, but from that moment until Kwon Taek Joo woke up. Zhenya didn't leave his seat. When Kwon Taek Joo wakes up and sees him staring at his sleeping lover, Zhenya will hug or kiss him.

Sometimes Kwon Taek Joo also wakes up earlier. It was an opportunity to look at his gentle face to death. The image of Zhenya sleeping looks harmless and innocent. And strangely enough, there is no part of the face that is not attractive.

Kwon Taek Joo did not move but silently observed. A few times he even held his breath and secretly took photos.

I don't know when Zhenya realized it. He also sometimes pretends to sleep, from inside his eyelids he can easily see everything even if his eyelashes don't move, because Kwon Taek Joo's tickling, trembling breath makes the perception even clearer..

[What are you doing?]

Zhenya quickly raised his eyelids and muttered. Then he smiled and asked solemnly.

[Why are you peeping like that? Finally, when will we do it, kiss?]

[It seems like there's a strange formula in your head. Do you have to kiss a kidnapped person or a sleeping person? Haven't you been watching too many fairy tales?]

[It's not romantic at all, Taek Joo. Women won't like it.]

[Isn't that good for you?]

Kwon Taek Joo lowered his head and tightly sucked the nagging man's lips. The man who was attacked suddenly hesitated, then bit his lower lip and pressed his tongue inside. Confused eyes gently curved up. Zhenya naturally hugged Kwon Taek Joo's face and changed position, holding his hand tightly and continuing to lead the kiss. A moment later, the intertwined lips slowly parted, eyes sparkling with satisfaction.

[I don't care either.]

Kwon Taek Joo looked down and nonchalantly added. Then the two kissed until their lips softened. He remembers how hard it was for several days because he felt pain just opening his mouth a little.

5.12 Side Story

Warning: Couple fight with violence‼□‼□??

There are not always only good things, there are times when two people quarrel to the point of almost fighting each other. Of course, the initiator was mostly Zhenya and the ignition point was Kwon Taek Joo who caught fire.

When things explode. Zhenya often cannot understand why Kwon Taek Joo is angry. No, he doesn’t even try to understand.

Zhenya’s train of thought is as self-centered as a 5-year-old child, completely unaware of his surroundings and not knowing how to ask for forgiveness even if it's all his fault. The word sorry doesn't seem to be in Zhenya’s dictionary.

Of course, there were also a few times when Kwon Taek Joo was the cause of the fight. That was also the time the two had the biggest argument.

It happened not long ago. Around Zhenya's birthday, their second birthday since living together. Kwon Taek Joo promised to go on vacation to Ajinoki together when Zhenya was too tired from the Korean heat.

But at that time, an event happened that made North-South relations tense. The national intelligence agency is placed on alert and Kwon Taek Joo is assigned a series of missions. He was forced to postpone his vacation plans a bit. It was a politically sensitive time and was also the reason Kwon Taek Joo asked Zhenya to never meddle in his affairs. To compensate, he coaxed that he would listen to everything Zhenya wanted after the busy work was over.

Trouble began when the intelligence information he had received with great difficulty arose in the middle. As a result, the target he was about to catch after chasing for many days suddenly disappeared. Kwon Taek Joo turned on detection mode and scanned everywhere, but the fishing line broke and the fish escaped. Time passed like an eternity while he still had no clue. The Ajinoki trip was therefore also delayed.

Kwon Taek Joo had to shyly turn back when instructed to stop searching. For the first time, he could not complete the assigned task.

He returned home after a few weeks and didn't say a word. He didn't want to reveal his feelings of failure and tried to shake off all his regrets. But it's not easy. The mood is depressed and shows no signs of recovery. Zhenya also just looked at him silently.

(He knows..)

Kwon Taek Joo slept like he was unconscious all day. When he opened his eyes again, Zhenya was still sitting in that position and looking at Kwon Taek Joo. He was also not in a hurry to start a conversation or arrogant as usual. Kwon Taek Joo went into the bathroom without saying a word to him, he filled the bathtub with water and soaked in it.

He must sincerely apologize, explain the recent situation and hope for understanding, but Kwon Taek Joo is completely in no spirit, for the time being he does not want to think or make any effort.

After a long while, Kwon Taek Joo walked out. Zhenya was sitting on the sofa in the living room. Eyes met. Zhenya’s face stiffened. Thinking back, he kept hearing a vibration somewhere. Following the direction of the sound, his eyes stopped at Zhenya’s hand. He was holding Kwon Taek Joo's work phone.

It looks like a call came from headquarters. They said they would be in touch if the target reappeared. In Kwon Taek Joo's mind, he only thought that the opportunity to save had come. He didn't have time to think about the problems that had to be solved along with the fatigue that had accumulated over the past time.

[Give it to me.]

Kwon Taek Joo immediately reached out his hand. Zhenya's expression turned cold.

[Give it to me.]

He urged again in a low voice. Just then, Zhenya smashed the phone as if for him to see. The broken phone fell to Kwon Taek Joo's feet.

The thin thread of reason in his head tensed and then was cut, feeling like being poured with a bucket of cold water.

[What are you doing?]

[I said it was all over.]

[...You missed your target. So the strategy also temporarily ends.]

[So what? Do you want to go again?]

Zhenya showed obvious discomfort. Kwon Taek Joo's chest was so tight it was suffocating. He exhaled.

[That's work.1

[Is that so important?]

[What are you talking about?]

Feeling frustrated when having to answer a series of meaningless questions from an unreasonable person.

[Can't you tell the difference? I'm not even a child. Don't bother anymore.]

When Kwon Taek Joo's offensive words rang out, Zhenya's chin and forehead wrinkled for a moment. Sharp eyes flashed fire.

[I have to blow up the entire Korean peninsula for your proud work to end, right?]

Kwon Taek Joo gasped because of the unreasonable sounds, he no longer had any motivation to talk further with Zhenya.

He ignored him and put on his clothes first. He didn't even button his shirt properly and hurriedly walked out, but Zhenya called him again. [Taek Joo]'s voice mixed with a sigh. Kwon Taek Joo turned his head to look back, he was bowing his head with his hands holding his forehead. Face dark.

[I'm trying to restrain myself from detaining you.]

It wasn't just a threat. It is inherently like that, It's just that he forgot. Kwon Taek Joo thought that Zhenya had been docile the whole time, meaning he was quite well tamed. But he is still selfish and narrow minded. He's just being patient. What does peace on the Korean peninsula mean to someone who doesn't even consider the safety of his homeland.

If Kwon Taek Joo still had the ability to calmly judge, the situation would be different. But at that time, he just wanted to make up for his only failure.

['m sorry.]

It's not an apology. But an apology to leave. Zhenya couldn't stand it any longer. He stood up, quickly closed the distance and roughly turned Kwon Taek Joo around. The arm that Zhenya held tightly throbbed. His whole body tensed with pressure he had never felt before.

[Don't go.]

The cold expression on Zhenya's face was a complete contrast to the pleading tone. It's a kind of threat. It was a warning to stop because he was about to get angry. But Kwon Taek Joo dismissed that hand.

[I have to go.]

Kwon Taek Joo tried to turn away but his collar was grabbed. When he protested, Zhenya grabbed him violently by the collar and pushed him into the mirror in front of the door. His head was pounding with shock. The scalp feels the entire surface of the cold mirror. Luckily it didn't break.

At this point, Kwon Taek Joo couldn't stand it any longer.

[Let go.]

He clenched his molars and growled. His hand grabbed the arm that was tightening the collar. His nails dug into the back of Zhenya's hand.

[Taek Joo. Don't test my patience.]

[Damned. If you can't stand it anymore, go and drag anyone back and roll around. Isn't that a special ability for a brat like you?]

(He’s finished. He’s dead, goodbye Taek Joo. It was a wonderful time knowing you.)

Kwon Taek Joo spit it out in anger. Because he was so angry, he accidentally said something, but he couldn't take back what he said.

Zhenya’s face no longer had a drop of blood. His huge shadow completely covered Kwon Taek Joo. Rapid breathing. When his hand approached, he suddenly shivered. Zhenya stopped for a moment then reached out and held Kwon Taek Joo's arms tightly. He gritted his teeth. It wouldn't be strange if Kwon Taek Joo's arm was broken this time.

[Am I that ridiculous in your eyes?]

The emotionless voice seemed to encourage Kwon Taek Joo to answer, the strength from his hand increased another level.

Time still ticks by even when arguing. Because of Zhenya, he still couldn't contact headquarters. Kwon Taek Joo's mood was restless.

[Damned. Let go.]

He shouted and pushed Zhenya away but he stood as steady as a rock and didn't move a bit. Kwon Taek Joo struggled and hit his shoulder and face. Zhenya's jaw clenched tightly. The atmosphere became more tense.

[Do you mind? Me? In the end, what else should I be like? All I ask is that you don't go. Do I have to sit obediently like a dog and wait until you feed me? Thank you for your kindness.]

The voice seemed to break. When Zhenya is truly angry, his iridescent eves become as clear as crystal. It seemed like everything he had tried to suppress until then exploded all at once. If it goes any further, it will definitely become a chaos. Kwon Taek Joo realized this was the time he had to try to use his reason. He relaxed his body and asked for a truce.

[Let go, and talk later.]

[No I do not think so.]

[Please...]

[I have the right to say no, right? I hate it, Taek Joo.]

[Damn it, I don't have time to joke with you.]

In the end, Kwon Taek Joo couldn't stand it anymore and got angry. Zhenya's hand was tightened more fiercely. The next moment was the sound of buttons being pulled off and a shirt being ripped apart. He was speechless and slowly looked at the pitifully torn shirt while looking at Zhenya.

Zhenya didn't seem fazed at all. He threw away the piece of shirt he was holding in his hand and said sarcastic words.

[Do not get mad. It's just an immature dog causing trouble.]

(I’m sorry, I should not have laughed. This is a serious situation, but this was funny)

[What, this bastard?]

Kwon Taek Joo was stunned. Zhenya nonchalantly stroked his exposed neck, her thumb lightly touching his protruding collarbone. It wouldn't be surprising if he broke his chest right now. It's dangerous and thrilling but he doesn't know what else to do. He got goosebumps wherever Zhenya's hands brushed.

Zhenya's eyes dropped, his gaze followed his fingers, then he suddenly lowered his head. Kwon Taek Joo squinted his eyes at the thought of being bitten. Zhenya did not hesitate to open his mouth and then suddenly bit his neck.

[..Ugh]

[My teeth are itchy so I'll grind them a bit.]

Zhenya muttered then gritted his teeth in anger. His sensitive skin burned, his legs wobbled at the feeling of teeth digging into his flesh.

[Fuck, come on, fuck... don't!]

In an instant, a pop sounded. Kwon Taek Joo was startled when he saw Zhenya's face turned to the side. He just tried to push him away, but ended up swinging his hand into a fist. Time seemed to stop for a moment, only his hands trembled without support.

Zhenya's eves slowly turned red. The tense atmosphere increased one level to the point of suffocation.

Suddenly the doorbell rang, it seemed like someone was coming. Kwon Taek Joo was startled and looked at the main door then turned his eyes to Zhenya. His pupils had completely shrunk. Kwon Taek Joo understood that the two could no longer talk anymore.

As soon as he said no, their lips suddenly stuck together. The force of the thrust caused the back of his head to hit the mirror again. He felt the danger to every cell throughout his body. Zhenya grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's chest as if he was going to tear it to pieces and even tried to pull down his pants. When Kwon Taek Joo twisted his body to protest, Zhenya immediately tore the zipper. He grabbed his wrist to stop him but could not overcome the monster's strength.

Zhenya roughly kneaded Kwon Taek Joo's penis while pressing his lips to his neck, chin and cheeks. The more he pushed away, the more ferociously Zhenya came back and attacked.

The doorbell rang again.

"Delivery."

Feeling the presence inside, the delivery staff outside the door spoke up. They knocked loudly on the door. If he wasn't looking at the wrong house, it seemed like Zhenya ordered something while Kwon Taek Joo was taking a shower. He learned how to use an online delivery app even though he didn't know any Korean.

Kwon Taek Joo regained consciousness, he hit Zhenya on the shoulder and pushed him away as hard as he could. But right after escaping, he was caught and pushed hard through the main door. The entire entrance door rang loudly.

"This...?"

The delivery man's voice became quite cautious. A picture of domestic violence must have been painted in his mind.

(This poor delivery man.)

Not completely wrong. Kwon Taek Joo's bare chest and face were pressed tightly against the cold front door. He couldn't escape because Zhenya grabbed the back of his neck from behind and pressed him close. He gritted his teeth and endured it, but Zhenya didn't seem to hear anything.

Zhenya without hesitation pulled his penis out. He pulled down Kwon Taek Joo's pants and underwear and gently rubbed his meat on the exposed buttocks.

[...This crazy guy]

Curses poured out. All the muscles in Kwon Taek Joo's body were tense to the point of pain as if he relaxed even a little bit, that giant mass of flesh would crawl right into the hole.

Zhenya repeatedly rubbed his stiff penis against the hole and bit the back of Kwon Taek Joo's neck. He still did not forget the foreplay by gently squeezing Kwon Taek Joo's penis, which was erecting more slowly than usual. Even in dilemmas like this, the body gradually warms up. Crazy guy.

During that fierce fight, the delivery man's trembling voice rang out, "Are you okay?". He hasn't left the door yet.

"Hey what happened? Shall I call the police?"

Kwon Taek Joo at that time gave up wrestling. He leaned his sweaty forehead against the front door and took a deep breath. After Kwon Taek Joo calmed down, Zhenya no longer behaved excessively.

[...Tell that person to leave.]

Kwon Taek Joo muttered with a tired look. The delivery person did not react for a moment and then suddenly put his hand on the handle of the main door, after which he quickly pulled it down. The main door immediately opened and Kwon Taek Joo's body that was tightly attached to it was also pushed forward. When he turned his head outward, he almost made eye contact with the delivery person.

The door opens about 10 cm. The delivery man and Zhenya's eyes met through the door, but Kwon Taek Joo didn't hear him speak. The delivery man froze when he saw a tall foreigner suddenly appear. Then he was startled when he gradually realized the scene of two people passionately embracing each other right in front of him.

[Leave it there and go away.]

Zhenya said decisively. It's in Russian but the accent is still enough to convey the meaning. The delivery person said sorry, then quickly put the things he brought, closed the door and disappeared.

Perhaps thanks to that brief incident,

Zhenya calmed down a bit. The guy vaguely called Kwon Taek Joo's name and then rubbed his face against his ear.

[Taek Joo]

[End it quickly]

Kwon Taek Joo raised his elbow to push Zhenya away. Zhenya stopped for a moment then without hesitation grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's shoulder and turned him aside. When Kwon Taek Joo resisted, Zhenya pulled him back and pushed him in front of the mirror and pushed his penis into the hole. Kwon Taek Joo's fingers leaning on the mirror turned white.

He kept his head down the entire time he was stabbed from behind. He didn't want to see his face in the mirror opposite, He jerked his head irritably when Zhenya tried to grab his chin, all he expected was for him to finish the job quickly.

As soon as Zhenya took a step back, Kwon Taek Joo immediately pushed him away

[Don't leave my sight. Or I will kill you.]

(Zhenya definitely has abandonment issues. Not saying what he did was right.)

A warning with a wrinkled nose. Kwon Taek Joo did not answer but left the house. The dish placed in front of the door caught his eye. Looking at the packaging number, it seems to be Jambong or malatang. Zhenya ordered something he couldn't eat. His heart was confused.

(Cute and sad.)

That day Kwon Taek Joo couldn't do anything even when he returned to headquarters. He was unable to receive calls and responded slowly. Anger and frustration reached their peak.

He was disappointed that he could not appear at the action location and he did not contact Zhenya. Kwon Taek Joo tried not to think about anything else but focused on work. But nothing is different.

Finally, Kwon Taek Joo succeeded in finding the target and quickly obtained the necessary information. But his mood didn't get better at all. He felt suffocated and frustrated because he had missed something important. The thoughts he had tried to suppress quickly returned, suffocating him.

Looking back, it was Kwon Taek Joo who was the cause of the argument. He made a promise to Zhenya only because he subjectively believed that he could complete the job smoothly on time. Until the schedule was delayed, he did not appease Zhenya but asked for another understanding. In the end, things got messy and he still put work first. It was natural for Zhenya to be angry, though there was a lat to be said about that bastard's violent reaction.

His mind thought over and over again countless times. The quilt was heavy but reason still clung to the petty excuse that Zhenya had also done wrong. Kwon Taek Jop didn't know what face to look at him with. He's also not used to apologizing.

Kwon Taek Joo took the night flight back ahead of schedule. He arrived in Korea at dawn. Until then there had been no contact from Zhenya. He couldn't sleep for many days because he was busy with work. He also couldn't close his eyes even on the plane with wandering thoughts. His whole body was exhausted, his mind just wanted to find a quiet place to lie down.

He didn't know if the emotional tug of war would last when he met Zhenya. Maybe there will be another argument. Just thinking about it made his head spin, but he still went to Zhenya's house.

Kwon Taek Joo rang the doorbell. There was no reaction inside. Zhenya is very sensitive when sleeping, he will definitely wake up. But no matter how much I waited, Zhenya was nowhere to be found. Finally, Kwon Taek Joo directly unlocked the door and entered.

Zhenya sat with his back against the headboard. I don't know if he just woke up or how long he's been like that. Even in the presence of Kwon Taek Joo, Zhenya remained motionless. Even when their eyes met, Zhenya didn't say a word. Kwon Taek Joo also couldn't find the right words to say

[…….]

[…….]

The two just looked at each other as if they were having a blind date, then Kwon Taek Joo suddenly crawled onto the bed. Zhenya watched him boldly rush into the seat next to him. Just like that, Kwon Taek Joo pulled the blanket up to his neck and fell asleep. Zhenya did not touch Kwon Taek Joo and did not say a word to him.

—

Kwon Taek Joo slept soundly all day. When he opened his eyes again, Zhenya was still sitting next to him. He did not hold a tablet, phone or book in his hand. Kwon Taek Joo wondered what Zhenya was doing alone while he was sleeping.

He opened his eyes but just lay still without moving. Kwon Taek Joo just stared blankly at Zhenya. First he had to say sorry but he couldn't open his mouth. The two of them should have resolved the problem through dialogue and agreed not to make the mistake again. In his mind, he had already decided what to do, but he couldn't say anything and just quietly licked his lips.

Time passed like that, and Zhenya spoke up to break the silence.

[Are you done sleeping yet?]

Kwon Taek Joo nodded silently. He didn’t know why, but maybe that's what he should do right now. Soon, a huge shadow covered his face, a familiar scent crept in, his body gradually melted, his breath warm and wet when his lips touched. He grabbed Zhenya’s collar tightly and kissed him more passionately than ever.

Zhenya also hugged Kwon Taek Joo tenderly, then the two made love as if it would never end. People say it's not good to fight and resolve it with your body, but there's no faster or surer way for both of you. From the beginning, Zhenya doesn't even know how to self-reflect and is a master at justifying himself. Arguing to resolve conflicts with such a guy forever is impossible.

Kwon Taek Joo scratched behind his ear as he escaped his endless thoughts. Even if he dated and married someone other than Zhenya, he would still quarrel for the same reason. The problem will never be resolved unless Kwon Taek Joo himself leaves NIS. Because if you're in love, it's natural to want to be together. Who can take on someone who always prioritizes work over himself?

Dating is extremely tiring. At least that's the case with Kwon Taek Joo. But why did you start that annoying story? Did you always think that Zhenya was a monster so he would be different from normal people, that he would never feel alone.

Kwon Taek Joo did not have time to think carefully. When he decided to accept Zhenya, he didn't expect it to be this deep. This is a limited relationship 'until he gets bored and lets go'. But is it still like that now?

"This damn guy."

Kwon Taek Joo exclaimed for no reason and then slapped his hand on the pillow, he pulled a thinner pillow and placed it on his face. Has he been drinking too much? His body sagged and then a feeling of lethargy flooded in. He curled up his body and fell asleep.

(For a second I forgot it was a flashback)

5.13 Side Story

Kwon Teak Joo dreamed again. The boy appeared again with light blond hair and blue eyes. He hesitantly looked at the child. Nothing particularly dangerous. There was also nothing in his small white had, He felt relieved. At least it wasn't a nightmare like the previous times.

The child was so weak and fragile that it was unimaginable that he was the Zhenya of the present. Or really it has nothing to do with Zhenya. Maybe it's just an illusion coming from Kwon Taek Joo's subconscious.

The two looked at each other warily. Looking back, ever since that boy appeared, he felt infinite pity for Zhenya. He didn't know why that boy kept appearing in other people's dreams and complicating his mind.

"Yeah, kid. Why do you keep acting so cute?”

He didn't know if the boy spoke Korean or Russian. But it seems to have been properly communicated to the child. The boy didn't answer but just stared at him. Kwon Taek Joo is not good at dealing with children, because it is very rare for him to meet a child of that age. He didn't know how to say it so the child wouldn't be hurt, or whether he would understand what he said.

"It's annoying, so don't show up anymore."

(Don’t say that Taek Joo)

He said bluntly. Was that a mistake? There was water surrounding the eyes of the child who was biting his lip and whimpering. His blue eyes were swollen with tears. Ah, he didn't mean to make you cry.

The child choked up and turned away and started running. He didn’t know why, but he thought he had to catch him. He should have chased this uninvited guest away, but he felt like he had done something really bad.

Just as he was about to rush after him, a pair of hands suddenly reached out from behind and held his shoulders tightly. His body was gently flipped over to the opposite side.

“…”

Taek Joo.

His consciousness was half awake and half asleep by the sweet call. Kwon Taek Joo is so used to the weight on his body and the feeling of hair brushing against his cheeks. He ran his hand through his flowing hair. He took that hand and pressed it to her soft lips. The huge mass of meat continuously stabbed below and pressed deep into the abdomen. Even that is a familiar feeling.

"Um..uhmm..”

Kwon Taek Joo moaned sweetly and hugged the existence that was pressing down on him. The body he once felt threatened by is now strong and safe. He felt like he was in a big cocoon when he was hugged.

Taek Joo.

An indescribable feeling of euphoria when that man lovingly called his name, happy for him, experiencing the climax of pleasure in him. Everyone in this world, and sometimes even Kwon Taek-joo himself, did not hesitate to call him a monster, but wasn't he just a weak creature longing for love and warmth.

“...Uhm, Zhenya."

He groaned and called Zhenya. In an instant, the strange feeling spreading from deep in my stomach suddenly disappeared. Eyelids fluttered open.

“…?”

Kwon Taek Joo looked around bewilderedly. He fell asleep. The blanket was not covering his body and his clothes were still intact. Is Zhenya back?

He tried to search, but to no avail. Kwon Taek Joo is still alone in the quiet house. Zhenya hadn't come to wake him up, it must have been just a dream.

He sighed and stroked his face, but a heavy energy surged up from below. No way. Kwon Taek Joo examined his lower body. The front of his pants bulged as if about to burst.

How silly. He had been having strange dreams and it ended up like this. Has he been so dissatisfied with his desires lately?

Kwon Taek Joo was about to take a shower when the phone rang. It was a call from his mother.

—

"Hey, why are you only coming back now? Drink alcohol in moderation."

As soon as Kwon Taek Joo unlocked the door and walked in, his mother's grumbling voice poured out. He wondered why his mother opened the front door, and she was even wearing a long dress. Looks like there's a guest coming to the house. A pair of shoes with a familiar size caught his eye as he unconsciously looked at the floor, suddenly, a stupid sigh rang out.

He passed his mother and quickly went inside, where Zhenya was sitting at the kitchen table drinking tea. The guy leaned back in his chair and smiled.

[Are you coming back now?]

Kwon Taek Joo was dizzy and had difficulty breathing. He made him so worried and now he's enjoying cake at someone else's house. He tried to believe that up until now the lack of contact was due to some unavoidable situation, but it seemed that was not the case. All 10 fingers, which he had feared would be broken, appeared unharmed.

[What…]

[Who did you go drinking with last night?]

Even as he was about to jump out and swear, Zhenya took a step ahead with a gentle tone like a passing word, then his eyes moved to the bowl in front of him where a slice of melon was lying on the fork. It was a polite gesture, but he felt a threat approaching. If that guy didn't install a listening device on Kwon Taek Joo, then the source must definitely be his mother.

[Do you still understand Korean now?l

[it's understandable at a level.]

Zhenya looked at his mother and smiled. Kwon Teak Joo's mother couldn't tell how dark he was and could only laugh along. She said, "Let's get more." when she saw that the cup in front of him was empty and enthusiastically pointed to the coffee pot. Actually, my mother's hand and foot gestures are now at the international language level.

"Hey, why are you standing there in a daze? Don't go in and talk to the ambassador."

Mom pushed Kwon Teak Joo on the back. He went to the kitchen table to pour some tea, opened the refrigerator and started looking for a suitable dessert.

There was no other way but to sit across from Zhenya, he stared at him while picking up a piece of apple from his bowl. Sometimes they say the fruit peel is rich in nutrients, but now they carefully cut it into a rabbit shape to entertain this kid. Without hesitation, he chewed the rabbit's head.

[It's been a long time since I drank with my junior. So what?]

(He is answering the question from earlier)

[Did you sleep with that junior?]

Zhenya slightly folded his eyes and silently asked tentatively. He knew that face well. Laugh but not laugh. For the safety of innocent Yoon Jong Woo, he must explain clearly.

[This crazy guy. What strange fantasy?]

[Strange fantasy? I don't have it. Taek Joo, what did you think of that was so strange?]

[Nothing? The fact that you drank with your junior all night? Or did you sleep with that guy?]

[What? I told you it wasn't true.]

[So where did you come from?]

He opened his mouth and then closed it again. Kwon Teak Joo couldn't answer honestly. He went to the house that had no owner, hugged that person's pillow and slept until his younger brother stood up. If Zhenya knew, he would be proud of himself and laugh at him for a few days. Self-esteem doesn't allow that.

[Why do I have to report that to you?]

The guy who was staring shrugged his shoulders.

[lf you don't want to talk, that's okay. There are many ways to find out.]

Yoon Jong Woo has been drawn into gossip and is about to face dangerous things. No matter how much people live according to their own wishes, they must not cause trouble to others.

[I slept alone]

[Where were you?]

[No matter where I was, I slept alone. Don't touch innocent people.]

[We will find out if it is innocent or not.]

[Ah, I told you not to.]

[I look forward to seeing you get angry. What would I do if you weren't here?]

[...As expected, it would be better for my life if this bastard disappeared.]

Why is he worried about this bastard? He didn't think about what he did, couldn't find any sign of apology, and appeared so brazen that he didn't know where he came from.

"What are you two talking about that's so interesting?"

At that moment, his mother returned to the dining table. Kwon Teak Joo was wondering what she was doing all this time when a heavy tray was placed on the table. A box of tea passed down from generation to generation is placed on it. His mother always kept precious things in the decorative cabinet. Thinking back, the cup placed in front of Zhenya was also an object that his mother cherished very much.

What is that, a kid?

Kwon Teak Joo looked at his mother as if giving an objection. His mother ignored that look and introduced herself to Zhenya.

"Ambassador, please try this once. It's called Seungseol tea. It is green tea made from young shoots that grow in the snow in early spring."

She carefully explained in a gentle tone. Even so, he couldn't understand. Sure enough, Zhenya looked at Kwon Taek Joo as if asking for an interpreter.

[It's expensive so don't waste it.]

Zhenya laughed at the confusing translation. His mother also smiled and held out a cup. He looked obediently holding the bottom of the glass. How obnoxious. Even if it weren't, the little teacup was like a child's toy in Zhenya's hands.

"This is a great dessert to eat with it. I don't know if it fits your taste."

Black rice cakes cut into bite-sized pieces are brought out, bean powder and honey are also added. Perhaps because it was strange, Zhenya tilted his head slightly.

[marzipan.?]

(Because I didn’t know what a marzipan was, I looked it up. It’s apparently a ready-to-eat sweet treat traditionally found in confectionary shops across Europe.)

[No, rice cakes]

Kwon Taek Joo pointed his chin towards the plate of cake while Zhenya did not move and stared at the plate as if meeting a strange creature. Kwon Taek Joo quickly picked up a piece to try. It's tougher and firmer than the ones you buy from a regular store. For foreigners, the structure may not seem very suitable.

His mother hit him on the back and asked him why he took other people's food with his hands. During that time, Zhenya stuck the rice cake into his fork and put it in his mouth. His mother immediately turned her attention to him.

"How do you like it?"

[The taste when chewing...]

Zhenya chewed the rice cake slowly in his mouth and then clicked his tongue. His mother's eyes were full of expectation.

[Like your son's butt]

What, this bastard?

The moment Kwon Taek Joo was about to stand up in anger, his mother clapped her hands with a satisfied face.

(The time where I'm glad Taek Joo's mom doesn't know Russian.)

"Oh, you must really like it. Lucky. Let's eat more."

Zhenya also looked proud when he saw his mother happy, crazy bastard.

"Come on, this is honey water. Finally, how much did you drink? It's only been a day and my face has already become unsightly."

His mother clicked her tongue and put down the cup. She asked why he looked like that and criticized his loose hair and wrinkled clothes. Kwon Taek Joo sighed while drinking honey water. The overwhelming sweetness made him wince, even bitter medicine wasn't this difficult to drink.

"Drink it all, don't leave anything behind. The whole part sank below. This is good for your health."

Kwon Taek Joo drank thick honey water under her mother's supervision. Even though he tried, his face still grimaced. He held his breath and swallowed, then suddenly there was a clicking sound. He looked over confused, Zhenya was operating on his phone with a happy face. [Don't do that] with the cup still in your hand, but the guy doesn't care. He just pressed the photo button repeatedly and then showed it to his mother. His mother tilted her head and laughed.

(Cute that they both take photos of each other.)

5.14 Side Story

"Ahaha, even though he's grown up, he still looks like a child, right? Ah. The other day, while cleaning out the warehouse, I found an old album. Do you guys want to see it?"

Kwon Taek Joo almost stood up.

"Ah, why is that so? No need, mom."

"What else? The Ambassador likes to see photos very much."

Kwon Taek Joo tried to stop but was pushed aside. His mother stood up and went into the back room. Zhenya looked at him with curious eyes. Except for Kwon Taek Joo, everyone looked very happy.

He lightly kicked Zhenya's leg under the dining table. The guy looked straight into his eyes and asked in a low voice.

[What is up?]

[You said you'd be back soon, so why did it take 15 days?]

[Are you curious?]

Zhenya asked again as if surprised. Kwon Teak Joo was speechless. He wants to hear the reason so of course he will be curious.

[Because I don't know where you are and what you're doing when you suddenly disappear like that. I was very worried.]

[Ah ha, is that why you sent messages and called like that?]

Zhenya continued.

[It's surprising because I didn't think you were the type of person to be that obsessed with your lover. Do you have separation anxiety disorder?]

[Who...!]

Kwon Taek Joo tried to argue but the past few days replayed in his mind. He went to the embassy and consulate residence to find out news about Zhenya. He did not hesitate to order Yoon Jong Woo to do something no different from a stalker. Is he haunted just because this bastard returned later than expected?

Impossible. Kwon Taek Joo tried to deny and defend.

[That's because I have too many enemies. I'm afraid you might have been kidnapped again.]

Zhenya laughed. It was an undisguised mockery, but the mood seemed quite happy.

[Who do you think is in front of you?]

[That's why I'm crazy. Who are you? What happened to you? I wonder if it's the other way around.]

Well, the opposite is also the problem.

He made a fuss. He doesn't want Zhenya to be in danger, nor does he want the opposite situation if Zhenya endangers others.

The guy listening laughed again.

[Taek Joo, you are the only person who cares for me in this world.]

(□, that makes me realize he doesn’t really have anyone else to care about other than Taek Joo)

Really? Suddenly disappearing to make others worry and then making a face that makes people feel uncomfortable. Kwon Taek Joo is dating someone like that.

(Dating.. yes you are)

"This is the album. Just looking at it, it looks very old, right?"

His mother returned soon after with the album. Looking at the old stains and scratches, it looks like it's been 20 or 30 years old. Kwon Taek Joo also saw the album for the first time. No, he wasn't interested enough to know if this was the first time or not.

Except for his mother, the rest of the family members are all dry men. He didn't even try to take good photos, let alone organize albums, so recording family moments became his mother's responsibility. All the photos in Kwon Taek Joo's room are her work.

"Because it's a family album, in addition to Taek Joo's photos, there are also photos of other people."

Zhenya smiled brightly and happily accepted the album. I'm not doing business right now, what's with that smile? It was an expression that even Kwon Taek Joo had never seen before. A very beautiful smile but also extremely conceited. His mother smiled at Zhenya without knowing the dark intentions in his mind.

He opened the album cover. First is the parents' wedding photos. The photo is over 40 years old. Zhenya looked intently at a young couple then raised his head and smiled gently at Kwon Taek Joo.

[Taek Joo, you look like your father.]

[...Really.]

"Everyone around him says he looks like his father. The Ambassador looks very similar, right?”

He nodded slightly. Zhenya still only speaks Russian and his mother only speaks Korean but they understand each other without any other hand gestures. Kwon Taek Joo felt insecure with an unnamed fear coming over him.

He stared at his father's photo and muttered to himself.

[If the genetics are like this, there's no need to worry anymore.]

[What are you worried about?]

[Even if I give birth to a child without you knowing, it will be just like me.]

What? Kwon Taek Joo frowned. He didn't know what the hell Zhenya was talking about. He definitely knew that the two of them couldn't have children together. So even if you have a child with someone else, it's okay?

(I think he said that because he doesn’t wear protection while ‘having fun’ if you know what I mean. 😔and he did it with a lot of women, so he wouldn’t know if he had a kid)

[I mean, if you dare to do so.]

Zhenya added, each word slowly. The saying has many meanings. With just that one word, many people's heads were blown off. But it was unreasonable that Kwon Taek Joo secretly felt relieved.

The next section is a family biography. From the moment his brother and Kwon Taek Joo were born to the big and small events in the house. Zhenya listened attentively and carefully examined each

photo. Every time he discovered Kwon Taek Joo in there, he laughed like the sound of the wind blowing.

[So you like black beans.]

[What beans? You were a cool kid.]

[Are you kidding? You’re as small as a fist.]

[Ha, this self-centered brat. You're the one who's strangely tall]

Zhenya ignored Kwon Taek Joo's excuses and bowed his head to listen to the explanations that he could not understand from his mother. Neither of them even knew how much time had passed.

Not long after, Zhenya's eyes stopped at a certain photo. It was a photo from the day of the elementary school sports festival. Kwon Taek Joo, over 10 years old, is crying sadly with a dusty face. The knee and elbow were torn and bleeding profusely. Embarrassing memories came to mind. His mother excitedly chatted without knowing what her son was thinking.

"Ah, so cute, right? Was that time 10 or 11 years old? Since he was a baby, he hasn't cried that much, only whimpering a little when he's hungry or has a wet diaper. Thanks to that, I was able to raise two sons relatively easily. The adults around were worried that he was retarded, but luckily Teak Joo grew up strongly. Since childhood, he has liked to exercise, and his ambition to win is also very big. Maybe in the photo he's crying because he lost."

"Ah, mom. Why do you say such things..."

"Look at this. It was chosen to represent the relay race and practiced very hard every morning and evening. But why did he fight with the person running in front that day and both fell so violently? The people running behind all caught up... I thought he was going to give up. From a distance, it is clear that a piece of skin is missing from the chin. But not. He jumped up, continued running and began to catch up with everyone one by one. Of course, he didn't get first place. There were times when he fell while running, but he didn't give up and tried his best, so that's okay. Even though the 3rd class comforter was good enough, he still sobbed like it was a sad thing. You definitely have to get first place to accept it, right? If you don't do it, don't do it, but if you do it, you have to do it."

Zhenya stared at Kwon Taek Joo and smiled, looking like he understood the whole story while not knowing how to write even the letter ABC in half.

His mother's revelations did not end there.

"And when? I wonder if there is homework in Russia? In Korea, they force them to learn this and that because they're afraid the kids will play during the vacation. Among them is an exercise on making a glider. Taek Joo refused his brother's help and did it alone, but the day before school started, his cousin came to visit and ruined it. I couldn't do it again, so I asked the teacher for sympathy, but it didn't help. That day, he spent the whole night sobbing and doing it again. Let's see."

"Mom, stop it. It’s shameful "

"What? It’s fun."

His mother laughed and said to Zhenya, "Isn't that so, Ambassador?" This time he also nodded slowly. He looked at his mother, gave a strange smile and then turned to look at Kwon Taek Joo.

[Taek Joo, it would be better if you were like this little woman. Isn't it cute how she talks non-stop and smiles a lot?]

[Sorry for not being cute. Also, don't casually say cute things to adults. It’s disrespectful, boy.]

[I don't understand why you get angry so easily, but it's fun.]

He didn’t know if it was Zhenya trying to soothe him, but why did those words make him feel itchy? There must be something in his body that is broken.

Zhenya took out his phone and took a few photos of Kwon Taek Joo's childhood. His mother watched in amusement while he tried to use violence to cover the album, “Stop it”, she hit and stopped Kwon Taek Joo.

"The Ambassador is watching, why are you being so rude?"

"No, mom, ah..."

His heart felt like it was about to explode because the mother didn't understand anything about Zhenya but only focused on blaming Kwon Taek Joo and scolding him.

"When he was little, he was very obedient and cute, but since he grew up, he's become stubborn like this... I don't have any great wishes. Now if he flies out of the nest, gets married and lives a happy life, I have no regrets anymore. But it seems like he hasn't met anyone, even when asked to go on a blind date, he refused and said he didn't like it.”

His mother clicked her tongue. He quietly looked into Zhenya's eyes. He tilted his head to look at Kwon Taek Joo, seemingly expecting an interpreter. Of course it's impossible to tell him.

These days, his mother often brings up the topic of marriage. On the days when Kwon Taek Joo comes home, she often pushes someone's photo and asks him to go on a blind date. When he continued to be indifferent, she asked if there were any girls he was seeing and asked to meet. He couldn't answer that there was a guy he was dating. He also had nothing to say when his mother said she was jealous of her friends who were living with her grandchildren.

It's not like Kwon Taek Joo was indulged in romantic thoughts that he would live like this with Zhenya all his life. If he broke up with him, he will never be involved with another man again. But until now, he absolutely could not imagine that ending.

(I can’t either)

This time too, Kwon Taek Joo answered with the excuse he often gives when mentioning marriage.

"Mom, how can I get married when I'm busy with work? No woman likes that."

"Are you going to work until you die? There's no problem with living a little leisurely. Who are you that only knows how to work? Please get married and have children for me. If you have free time, travel and see the world."

"That's when everything goes well. Mom has raised me alone all her life. Mom has almost completed the task. How can I tell someone else to do such a difficult job? If you love that person, you can't do that."

His mother rolled her eyes again.

Kwon Taek Joo has never pictured married life. He never held that dream even vaguely and never harbored any romance. He just wondered if he would continue to work and live as he did now. Family is more likely to become an obstacle or weakness at work. Just like he loves his mother but her worries make him feel pressured.

For Kwon Taek Joo, passion for work and attachment to loved ones are values that he cannot undertake at the same time. Each of them hung on either side of the scale and kept shaking his mind, making it difficult for him to keep his balance, so he could not hastily put more weight on either side.

His mother shook her head disapprovingly then turned to look at Zhenya. A mischievous smile appeared on his face.

"Are you married, Ambassador? A young man with a good job, talented, ethical and even handsome. All the things girls love. Are you dating anyone?"

"Oh my god, mom, why do you ask that?"

"I was curious so I asked. If you don't have a lover, I can introduce you to a good girl."

His mother kept asking despite Kwon Taek Joo's dissuasion. While she kept asking something, Zhenya stared at Kwon Taek Joo with a puzzled expression.

[What are you asking?]

[Nothing.]

[What are you waiting for? What's wrong?]

[It's just nonsense so just nod your head and it's okay.]

(I love Taek Joo even more for that)

Zhenya looked skeptical. Anyway, this kid never trusts anyone. He ignored the guy's stare and looked around.

"He's seeing someone so don't ask anymore."

"Oh, really? Are they both Russian? So that girl also came to Korea? If two people live separately, they will miss each other and be very lonely."

"They will know how to handle it themselves."

"No, but what about him? You should care."

Being scolded for no reason. He always tried to be careful in front of his mother, but he couldn't do anything about her uniquely blunt tone. Kwon Taek Joo drank warm honey water and hummed, "Yes, yes, yes."

Even without any response from Zhenya, the mother continued the one-sided conversation.

"Why don't you say anything at home? People say that if you have the opportunity to go abroad, you should get married early."

"...Probably not."

If the Bogdanov family knew about Kwon Taek Joo's existence, they would try to get rid of him somehow, let alone marry him. On the contrary, it is surprising that he has remained unharmed so far. Does that side really not care about Zhenya? He had heard that rich people often get married early, but perhaps for that guy this wouldn't be a problem.

(Personally, I think that Zhenya doesn't care about marriage. Because If he did, he and Taek Joo would have been married already. And he never said anything about it)

Kwon Taek Joo was immersed in random thoughts when his mother suddenly began to investigate the household registration.

"Thinking back, what is your family like, Ambassador? Is the Ambassador an only child?

"Why?"

"Why can't Mom ask?"

"He has two brothers and a sister."

"Your family must be really happy."

Kwon Taek Joo was the one to answer, but his mother looked at Zhenya and nodded.

"Are your parents still alive?"

He couldn't immediately answer the next question. Kwon Taek Joo knows Zhenya's father, Vissarion, but he knows nothing about his mother. After a long while, he passed his mother's question to Zhenya, who had only been watching their conversation.

[My mother asked if your parents are still alive?]

[Dad is still alive.]

Kwon Taek Joo was about to translate immediately, but he looked at Zhenya. If so, has his mother passed away? Thinking back, even though he knew all about the Bogdanov family history, he still couldn't know the circumstances inside. In particular, he did not remember finding any information regarding Zhenya's mother. He also never talked about himself.

[Is your mother dead?]

[It's been a long time.]

Zhenya replied nonchalantly. In how long? 5 years? 10 years? Or when he was very young? It seems like you don't know much about this guy. What was his childhood like, did he go to school properly or how did he go through school? Kwon Taek Joo was sure that he had no friends, but he didn't even know if Zhenya had ever dated. He never asked. Have you been too careless?

Maybe that's why he has gone through the past 15 unprecedentedly difficult days. Since Zhenya cut off contact, he didn't know where to find out about him. If it were the opposite situation then Zhenya would somehow find Kwon Taek Joo. The more you know about someone, the easier it is to figure out their scope of activities. The fact that Zhenya knows everything about him inside and out and he doesn't, makes his insides even more complicated.

A moment later, Zhenya asked.

[Why are you looking at me like that?]

[...Nothing]

Kwon Taek Joo quietly turned away. He felt a bit of guilt as if he had done something wrong. He took it for granted that Zhenya was by his side and he didn't seek to know more about him. Zhenya always waited for him, but he wanted to go crazy waiting for him for only 15 days.

While Kwon Taek Joo was still thinking, his mother and Zhenya were looking at another photo. It was the only family photo taken before his father passed away. Nearly 20 years have passed, and the golden light on it has faded.

"This person is Taek Joo hyung. This is the children's father. My family has no sisters, so when I got married, I wanted to give birth and raise a daughter. Fate is cruel. Except for me, there were only men, so I didn't know how gloomy it was in the house. When I was young, my children lived quietly because their father was strict, so the family was like a temple. I don't know if you know, but Taek Joo's father and older brother were soldiers. Not all soldiers are like that, but father and son are very quiet and straightforward. Actually, Taek Joo also inherited that blood, so he is also very cold. But after his father and brother passed away, he became very obedient. I wonder if he's trying to do all three because he's worried that I'll be lonely."

The mother's chattering voice suddenly choked up when she saw the photo of her brother's appointment ceremony. She quickly pulled out a tissue to wipe her tears as the remaining tears flowed down her cheeks.

"Oh no. Sorry, Ambassador."

Zhenya slightly raised his eyebrows. There was a time when Kwon Taek Joo confided a family matter, so Zhenya also knew a little bit, but he still seemed quite surprised by the unexpected situation. The mother shed tears in front of the guests, looking confused. She kept wiping her tears, "Mom, it's okay.". He comforted his mother and winked down the hallway at Zhenya.

[Hey, that's no good. Just come back another day.]

[...No matter what, that's the way it is.]

Zhenya shrugged. He stood up and Kwon Taek Joo also stood up immediately.

"Mom, the ambassador is about to return. I'll see him off and then come back."

"Yeah, don't bother, just go. Sorry ambassador. Be careful."

Mom apologized to Zhenya and then rushed to the bathroom. Soon there was the sound of water on the sink. Kwon Taek Joo left the house with a heavy heart.

5.15 Side Story

Two people stood next to each other waiting for the elevator. A gaze was clearly falling next to Kwon Taek Joo. He turned his head and their eyes immediately met. Zhenya didn't care about what just happened and was just looking at him intently. Kwon Taek Joo knew that he wanted to kiss him even though he didn't do anything. I can't allow it either because this place is really not suitable.

He turned his head toward the elevator again.

[Just what did you do to come back now? You still haven't answered.]

[Just a few miscellaneous things.]

[What happened.]

Kwon Taek Joo asked. Zhenya raised his eyebrows in surprise.

[Shouldn't you know?]

[I don’t.]

The guy burst out laughing, seemingly laughing at his squirming, and also looking very happy about it. The elevator has arrived. Kwon Taek Joo glared at Zhenya dissatisfied and walked in first. He also swayed and leisurely followed.

[I came back to talk about the engagement.]

As soon as the door closed completely, Zhenya suddenly confessed. Kwon Taek Joo heard it clearly but he couldn't absorb it right away.

[...Engagement? Who?]

[Let's see, who is it?]

Zhenya replied indifferently. He is also 30 years old this year. The reason the children of tycoons marry early is because of the harmony between wealth and status. That is not just a unique characteristic of Korean society. If the other party is the Bogdanov family, there will be many families

willing to get married. Since Zhenya and Olga were the only ones in the Bogdanov family who were not married, their marriage must have been a hot issue. For those who only wanted to expand their power, Zhenya's temperament was not a consideration.

So what? Do you refuse? Zhenya is quite good at communication, so it is possible that he has already met his match, and perhaps the relationship has developed enough to lead to marriage. It would be unreasonable if he was in a relationship but the other person was someone who refused to come out. Or he thinks that marriage and dating are two separate things.

What happened in Russia during the 15 days of loss of contact? If Kwon Taek Joo asked him openly, Zhenya would definitely answer, but for some reason he hesitated. He was very curious, and although he was worried, he still did not ask because his false pride still lingered within him.

It's strange. Kwon Taek Joo hoped that one day Zhenya would feel bored and let go.He didn't expect loyalty or pure love from him, but when this happened, he really didn't feel right.

[I'm old enough to get engaged.]

Zhenya stared at the elevator control panel and muttered nonchalantly. His indifferent attitude made him restless. A fire seemed to burn in my heart from somewhere.

Kwon Taek Joo smiled lightly.

[I'm curious who would marry someone like you.]

The saying has a bit of sincerity. Zhenya's wife and children. He had never been able to draw that picture, he had failed many times even to imagine it, but Zhenya spoke up again.

[Don't think about anything. Because nothing will change.]

[What the hell are you talking about? I have no intention of getting involved with a married man. I already said it. My goal is to live quietly and then die neatly. I don't like political drama.]

Kwon Taek Joo announced his stance. It doesn't seem right to be angry at the person who just betrothed her to Zhenya, because after all, Kwon Taek Joo himself couldn't have officially promised to marry Zhenya like that.

Unlike Zhenya, he cannot follow him anywhere and stay by his side. It's selfish, but he has no intention of abandoning his mother and his job. Then he should at least let Zhenya go, but the more he tried to give up, the more his emotions and reason became mixed up. He also doesn't know what the hell Kwon Taek Joo himself wants.

The elevator quickly reaches the basement parking lot. The sides of Zhenya's Bugatti are empty. Previously, parking violation stickers were posted everywhere, but now he can't find them anymore. It seems his mother has made arrangements with the management office. Zhenya can come see his mother even without Kwon Taek Joo and his mother was also used to welcoming a guy like that. That's how he gradually and surely infiltrated his daily life. Can he go back to the way he was before?

(Damn, already thinking about the future without Zhenya)

Kwon Taek Joo hesitated in front of the car without saying goodbye. There are still many things he wants to ask. He also wants to ask why he makes everyone so worried.

However, there are so many mixed thoughts and emotions that it is difficult to express them in words. What can I say to Zhenya when he himself still cannot organize his mind.

All that aside, Kwon Taek Joo wanted to be with him today. But he still has to pay attention to his mother. For no other reason, his mother cried when talking about his father and brother, and he could not bear to leave her alone.

[Let's go home.]

[It's not like you don't know that I'm mama's boy.]

Is it because you are closer to your mother? Zhenya today is not as stubborn as usual. But he couldn't ignore his speaking attitude.

[Yeah, yeah]

Zhenya suddenly grabbed his hand, pulled him back and kissed him. He sweetly sucked Kwon Taek Joo's lips, making a gentle clicking sound. Zhenya used his large hand to wrap around Kwon Taek Joo's face, gently pulling his slightly raised upper lip and then tilting his head so that it completely met his lips. He sucked Kwon Taek Joo's tongue and caressed his cheek like a child with his thumb.

Is it because it's been so long? Or because he’s afraid someone will find out? For some reason, he felt the hairs all over his body stand up.

The two of them rubbed their soft tongues and mingled their breaths. Sweet saliva overflowed. Zhenya smiled at Kwon Taek Joo, who silently accepted the kiss even in public. That itchy breath spread across his lips. Zhenya pressed his lips tightly against Kwon Taek Joo's obedient lips and then slowly pulled away.

Zhenya immersed himself in the lingering aftertaste of the kiss and then slowly rolled his blue eyes down. The bottom hem of the shirt is lifted up. Realizing the direction of his gaze, Kwon Taek Joo quickly withdrew his hand.

[Taek Joo. You seem regretful, don't you?]

Zhenya tilted his head again and pressed his lips to Kwon Taek Joo's ear. Hot skin gently rubbed against each other.

[Has your body been deprived lately?]

He asked as he slowly lowered his lips from his ear to his neck. Kwon Taek Joo's breathing gradually became difficult.

[If it's urgent, you can do it in the car.]

Kwon Taek Joo pushed the person who was whispering away. He smirked as if he knew that and then buried his head in Kwon Taek Joo's hair, taking a deep breath as if to confirm his body odor.

[Go now.]

When Kwon Taek Joo blankly showed a strange expression, Zhenya just smiled, it was beyond words.

[Go upstairs. Next time you will take back what you said today.]

Sending his deep condolences to the future Kwon Taek Joo, he sent Zhenya back.

[Go, quickly.]

Zhenya was pushed into the driver's seat. The car started and rolled away.

Kwon Taek Joo stood aside and watched him leave. The Bugatti was gliding towards the exit when it suddenly stopped. Did he forget something? The car stood there for a long time without moving. Suddenly, the phone in his pocket rang. The caller was definitely that guy.

[What's up? What is up?]

-Taek Joo. Do you want me to come home?

[Why are you asking again?]

-If you keep staring at me like a starved puppy like that, my heart will be moved. Do you want me to pick it up and feed it milk until it's full?

(Yes, it’s probably what you’re thinking. Haha)

[This crazy guy.]

Kwon Taek Joo raised his middle finger as if Zhenya could see. Even though he immediately turned off the phone, it seemed like he could still hear his cheerful laughter. Finally, Kwon Taek Joo turned back first and went to the elevator. When he is with Zhenya, he always has all kinds of emotions.

Standing in front of the main door, he calmed down, took a deep breath and opened the door. His mother had just come out and was packing up the dishes. Her originally not tall figure now looked even smaller.

He quietly approached and hugged her from behind. His mother asked why and grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's arm.

"I just suddenly remembered it when I saw the photo, it's not usually like that."

He nodded without saying anything. His mother patted Kwon Taek Joo's arm.

"I'm okay, son."

"Mm."

He gently rubbed his cheek against the back of her head and hugged her tighter.

—

Zhenya entered the house and stopped. He glanced inside as if he had discovered something. There were no signs or traces of other people. Everything remained the same when the light is turned on.

He strode into the bathroom and opened the door. The bathroom is dry with no moisture, not a single hair on the floor and the toiletries are in the right place. He turned around and looked at the kitchen and living room respectively. All the furniture and appliances were no different from when he left the house, but in the refrigerator there was a box that he had never seen before.

Zhenya went straight to the bedroom. Even the wide bed and the sheets on it pretended like nothing happened. It seemed like this was his skill in erasing traces after spending so long in life as a spy.

But he couldn't completely hide his body odor. It seemed like he tried his best to bathe and steam with the same product as Zhenya, but the scent of Kwon Taek Joo still lingered in the air. It was so gentle that he probably didn't even know it.

[So where did you come from?]

[Why do I have to report that to you?]

Zhenya's lips drew an arc. Kwon Taek Joo's confused face appeared in his mind.

[If you don't want to talk, that's okay. There are many ways to find out.]

[I slept alone]

[Where are you?]

[No matter where I was, I slept alone.]

He had no idea that his tail had been stepped on and still persistently built up his pride.

Zhenya sat down on the bed. The mattress shook slightly. Kwon Taek Joo's body smell is as rich as an illusion. He picked up a nearby pillow and buried his head in it.

[Ha... Taek Joo]

He burst out laughing like he couldn't stop. If Kwon Taek Joo had stayed here like this, he would have been very anxious but he still didn't know how to honestly say that he had been waiting. Suddenly Zhenya remembered Kwon Taek joo watching his car as it left. He felt like he couldn't bear it any longer.

Zhenya laid down and buried his head in the pillow. His eyes closed on their own. Breathing deeply, slowly and sweetly, as if he were finally home.

[….?]

Zhenya turned over and woke up vaguely, because there was a shadow looming over his face. It seemed like someone was sitting next to the bed. Despite the intruder's sudden appearance, the body was not yet ready to fight. On the contrary, it is still gently relaxing. Even in the darkness, that silhouette still felt familiar.

When he lifted his eyelids, it was Kwon Taek Joo. Zhenya never slept deeply and would wake up immediately because he was especially sensitive, but today Zhenya didn't even know he was here. Was it because he had completely adapted to being in his space, or had he instinctively realized that the situation was absolutely safe.

Kwon Taek Joo sat in the chair next to the bed and observed Zhenya. He was wearing a hoodie as if he came from home. The hood was pulled over his head and both his hands were stuffed into his front pockets. Zhenya didn't know when or why he was in that position.

[Someone openly entered the bedroom but I still didn't wake up. What if you were an assassin?]

[I can tell the difference at that size.]

[That's really funny.]

He grumbled then suddenly stood up, propped himself up on his hands and climbed onto the bed. Zhenya stroked the back of Kwon Taek Joo's thighs while quietly watching him climb on top of him.

[Actually, my mission in Russia is still continuing, and what if the search for 'Anastasia' is just a ruse, and the real target is you?]

[Then let's die.]

Zhenya replied while smiling. He didn’t know when Kwon Taek Joo's hand reaching up to his hip gained strength and grabbed his firm butt tightly.

[Taek Joo, take action.]

Zhenya spoke softly then gently pulled Kwon Taek Joo's arm. He put his hand under the hood to cover his cold ear and kissed it. Kwon Taek Joo also did not hesitate to return the kiss.

Zhenya just sucked on his plump lower lip, then let go, then bit and sucked again, but a soft tongue gently came out. He thought it was an illusion but the tongue was pushed inside. Zhenya tried to touch it with the tip of his tongue, but the other tongue quickly wrapped around his tongue as if waiting for a long time, the sound of the kiss made his mouth gradually heat up.

Zhenya removed his lips for a moment and then asked.

[What's wrong?]

He looked curiously at Kwon Taek Joo. Did something happen while he wasn't there? Why did he suddenly show this rare positivity with physical touch today?

Zhenya groped for Kwon Taek Joo's lips again. He pressed his lips against his again and then pulled away, many times. Neither the obvious body heat nor the close touches were a dream.

[Why do you say you have to stay home with your mother?]

Zhenya teased and asked if he had come to drink milk. If it was normal, he would be frowning or having a serious face, but today's Kwon Taek Joo didn't react like that. There is definitely something different from every other day.

He blinked slowly to understand the situation. Long eyelashes flutter in transparent eyes. Kwon Taek Joo stared at him then slowly lowered his face. Zhenya closed his eyes waiting for the kiss but Kwon Taek Joo didn't bite his lips but the tip of his nose.

Zhenya laughed foolishly.

[Taek Joo?]

[Yes?]

[What's wrong? Suddenly you act as if you want to tear a child apart.]

[It's you expressing that...]

[Are you lonely? To the point of finding your bed alone?]

Kwon Taek Joo, who had been keeping one hand in his pocket until then, took out something and threw it forward. The small box hit Zhenya's shoulder and bounced slightly. It's a box of condoms.

(Finally! Give the protection to Zhenya. He is finally not going to raw dog it.. I apologize for my words)

[I thought about whether I should sleep or not, but it piled up so much that I couldn't sleep.]

[ha?]

(I’m guessing it’s said like a question.)

[Before you become a married man, I have to enjoy it all.]

Kwon Taek Joo pretended not to care but it seemed his little head full of thoughts finally knew what he wanted. He smiled then grabbed Zhenya's collar, touched his lips and kissed him roughly.

A tickling feeling rose from his chest because Zhenya couldn't be honest with him. The corners of Zhenya's mouth kept curling up even though his lips were being bitten and tingling.

Not knowing how much he misunderstood the engagement story, Zhenya decided to let it go.

[Don't force me to think differently. Your mind is very complicated right now.]

Kwon Taek Joo gasped after the biting kiss on Zhenya. He smiled gently then pulled off the annoying hood and smoothed his thick, tangled hair. The long and smooth neck bent down again. Without hesitation, he opened his mouth and bit Zhenya's warm skin.

—

"Ugh... uh..."

The two opened thighs trembled, Kwon Taek Joo could clearly see how much strength he was trying to hold and how many muscles were twisting together. Zhenya slowly twisted three fingers to widen the circumference of the hole, pressing firmly inside and stroking the soft exterior with his thumb. Zhenya turned his wrist in the opposite direction and kneaded his soft balls. Then he put his mouth out and started sucking in. One side of the balloon is continuously sucked into the mouth and then out again. The sensitive area rubbing against the teeth and tongue stimulates arousal. His erect penis was also extremely stimulated by Zhenya's forehead and smooth hair.

"Ahh, um..."

Kwon Taek Joo used his foot to push Zhenya's shoulder as if to tell him to stop. But the guy kept his position without moving. Looking down at Zhenya lying between his legs, his whole body tensed. The meat pillar standing alone also shook. Blood rushed down, making the glans red. Feeling frustrated, Kwon Taek Joo reached out to grab it.

But Zhenya was one step ahead and grabbed his trembling hand. The guy licked from the bottom up, then gently sucked on the glans and sucked. Just with that, Kwon Taek Joo's back jumped up. The glans covered with saliva clearly showed anticipation.

Zhenya fixed Kwon Taek Joo's thighs with his elbows and holding his penis firmly with both hands, he gently spread him with his two thumbs. The gel inside spilled out, Zhenya stared at it and then stuck out his tongue to lick the hole.

"Uhm, Uhm...! Uhm, ah, ah...!"

It seemed like an electric current ran through Kwon Taek Joo's body for a moment. His knees burned, and his fingers dug down and tore the poor bedsheets.

Zhenya persisted in licking and sucking the hole. Fluid flows out like water from the tip of the penis. Kwon Taek Joo's resistance also became stronger. The lower half of his body was being pressed down, his upper body jumped up and frantically pushed Zhenya's head away. Once again, Zhenya licked the entire glans, sucked it firmly and then let go. As soon as he was released, Kwon Taek Joo's limbs hung down, his chest heaved and his breathing was heavy.

Zhenya easily removed the hand holding his hair and then intertwined his hands with his fingers, which were trembling from the warmth that could not be dissipated.

[Taek Joo, you said you wanted to cry. Why do you want to stop?]

[Ha, ha, ahh, when did I say that, you bastard?]

[Look. You always insist first and then pretend to be innocent.]

Zhenya frowned and reached for the drawer next to the bed. A pair of leather handcuffs and a long thin piece of silicone appeared on his hand. These are things Kwon Taek Joo has never seen before.

(Zhenya is pulling out the most random stuff, just like that outfit he wanted Taek Joo to wear)

[If you don't tell the truth, you'll be bullied until you confess.]

Kwon Taek Joo's wrist was easily controlled.

[What are you doing? Take this off!]

[When will you be honest?]

Zhenya set the conditions and then slowly touched Kwon Taek Joo's body with both hands, his pinky finger gently pressed Kwon Taek Joo's nipples and then brushed over it. His whole chest trembled slightly all the way to his waist. Zhenya's hand continued to slide across his stomach and down his thigh, both thumbs stroking back up the inside of his soft thigh and then resting on his groin. When the entire penis was completely in his large hands, Kwon Taek Joo shivered slightly.

[I was thinking before about what it would be like to tie you up and investigate like this. What is your true identity, who sent you and what do you intend to do? I was planning to ask every part of your body. If I fail to trick you, I will definitely do it. People have strong self-preservation instincts, so if the pain is too much, they will become honest.]

[It's good now that those thoughts have come true] Zhenya whispered while stroking Kwon Taek Joo's penis and occasionally placing kisses. Then he held the glans aside to open the small hole in the front. The pinkish red hole was drenched in fluid and convulsing saliva. Zhenya watched with interest and then picked up the gel- covered silicone pad. He placed the thin tip like a cotton swab into the hole and squeezed gently. Kwon Taek Joo's whole body twitched nervously as if he was about to be penetrated. His head tilted back as Zhenya pushed the round tip into the hole.

"ah ha... Ugh...ugh..."

Zhenya held his trembling penis upright and stroked it with his thumb to soothe it. Even so, he gently twisted the silicone piece and pushed it into the hole little by little. The inserter sealed the tight entrance, slid over the gel momentarily and penetrated downward. Kwon Taek Joo's molars clenched tightly, his body also trembled violently.

“Haa, ahh”

[Taek Joo.]

Zhenya hugged his body that was wavering between pleasure and pain, biting Kwon Taek Joo's stomach, sides and chest. The tooth marks left behind clearly cause burning pain everywhere, but on the contrary, the pain in the genitals is greatly reduced.

Zhenya cupped Kwon Taek Joo's bulging breasts and gently poked the insert that had been inserted in the front. When he sucked hard on the nipple, Kwon Taek Joo gasped.

[Geuh... umh! ahhh!]

The saliva he couldn't swallow left his mouth as he groaned. Bright eyes quickly lose their sharpness and fade.

Every time the stimulation point scratches inside, the restlessness suddenly increases. It hurt and tingled so much that he couldn't breathe. Kwon Taek Joo wanted to cum quickly.

But Zhenya did not leave Kwon Taek Joo alone. After releasing all of Kwon Taek Joo's power and taking a deep breath, he completely pushed the insertion device inside. The stimulation point of the inserted device causes the base of the penis to swell. His entire pelvis roared and the discomfort quickly spread down his thighs.

[Ha ha, ugh, take it out... take it out...]

Kwon Taek Joo struggled. He shook his shoulders vigorously and turned his head to the side. Zhenya held Kwon Taek Joo's face and forced him to look straight ahead. His eyes and ears were red with lust. Tears seemed about to fall from his eyes. Zhenya's lips drew a long arc, and the pupils of his blue eyes widened.

Kwon Taek Joo frowned as if predicting the impending tragedy. As always, Zhenya lifted his legs up to his chest and lay on top of his body. Blood quickly rushed to Kwon Taek Joo's completely covered face. Zhenya watched as Kwon Taek Joo moaned and then rubbed his huge muscle against the hole he had loosened. Even though Kwon Taek Joo avoided looking at him, Zhenya looked at him with passionate eyes. His eyes seemed to be both blaming and pleading in a bewitching way.

[Haaaaa, Taek Joo]

“Haa, ugh”

Zhenya breathed heavily and pushed the penis that was lying at the entrance. The hole opened with difficulty and began to take in the thick mass of flesh. Halfway through, it bit so hard that it felt like the skin was about to peel off. Kwon Taek Joo's eyes widened a few times.

[You must be very hungry, right?]

Zhenya frowned at the cramped feeling. After catching his breath for a moment, he rushed down immediately. Kwon Taek Joo groaned and shook his head. Maybe it was an illusion, it seemed like the insertion device was blocking the hole in the front that slightly rose and then lowered. When Kwon Taek Joo curiously touched the exposed part, his whole penis visibly trembled. He pushed Zhenya with his whole body, the stimulation points of the bumpy insertion device gave a clear feeling that there was a foreign object inside, as if he could pull it out without touching it. A strange curiosity arose.

If it were any other time, Zhenya would deliberately avoid sensitive points and continue to tease Kwon Taek Joo. The night is still long and there is no rush.

But after a long time of trying to enjoy a different kind of lovemaking, even the patience that was lacking was gone. Greed instinctively raised its head violently.

Zhenya deliberately held his stomach tightly, causing Kwon Taek Joo's penis to be completely pressed between the two and then moved his lower body.

"Ha, ahh!"

Kwon Taek Joo's entire body was still shaking, the already sensitive flesh was more stimulated by both abdominal muscles. His stomach was slightly wet with fluids oozing from his column of flesh. Zhenya pretended to mourn and then clicked his tongue.

[You're exhausting yourself. Wouldn't it be better to cry out loud once?]

Zhenya smirked and suddenly hit a certain point. Kwon Taek Joo's whole stomach growled. His limbs were stiff and shaking.

"Haha...!?"

Kwon Taek Joo's face was worried as if predicting danger could fall at any time. Zhenya looked straight at him and continued poking in the same place. Every time his penis passed by, the burning feeling gathered in one place and spread out in all directions like an electric current. Fingers, toes, hairline, all parts are numb.

[Oh, ah... I want to shoot]

[Then shoot.]

[This crazy guy, how could it be... Ahhh!]

Zhenya tightly closed his mouth that was spouting curses against evil. He lowered his lips and lifted Kwon Taek Joo's lower body even higher. Zhenya intended to put his tongue inside but his lips accidentally parted. He continuously kissed Kwon Taek Joo's lips and cheeks and then repeated the strong pounding of skin touching.

"Yeah, ugh... hah, ah, uhhh...!"

The only thing Kwon Taek Joo can do is resign. The deeper the thrust, the clearer the moaning. He tried to grit his teeth and endure, but his head kept curling up because the stimulation was too strong. The breath caught in his lungs and then burst out.

Zhenya pushed back more, the white gel stuck to the surface of the penis. It looked like the inner wall had been ground into a mold and gradually compressed into the shape of the guy's penis. It's a feeling Kwon Taek Joo has experienced many times but has never gotten used to.

No matter how hard he tried to defend himself, the inside was still violently opened and the meat was tightly sucked.

"Augh, ah, uhm, ugh, uhm...!"

Zhenya suddenly stopped thrusting. A portion of the gel extended out of his penis then broke and stuck to the side of Kwon Taek Joo's buttocks. He groaned with his body trembling. Kwon Taek Joo stammered and looked down with wet eyes.

"Zhenya..."

He urgently called Zhenya in a breathless voice. Is there any more joy than that? He happily rushed towards Kwon Taek Joo.

"Out, uhmmm, ughhhhhhhh...!"

[Ugh, uh, Taek Joo...]

Zhenya slammed his penis inside, writhing and choking on affection. Kwon Taek Joo also trembled with excitement. His mind was dizzy as if he had been electrocuted. Zhenya whispered Kwon Taek Joo's name and kissed wherever his lips touched. Kwon Taek Joo's sweaty skin gave rise to goosebumps. When Zhenya stuck his tongue in his ear, Kwon Taek Joo groaned tiredly. At the same time, Zhenya's lower abdomen also became wet.

[...hurry up]

Kwon Taek Joo gasped and rubbed his forehead against Zhenya's shoulder. He removed the handcuffs while rubbing his warm ears with his lips. Kwon Taek Joo hit his shoulder but Zhenya's face showed excitement. Even when Kwon Taek Joo pushed hard with his foot, Zhenya obediently backed away. However, Zhenya did not allow him to ejaculate.

Kwon Taek Joo was pulled by his ankle, his body helplessly slid down. Zhenya started at the ankle bone and bit down his calf, went over his knee and bit his thigh. The tickling feeling made Kwon Taek Joo uncomfortable. Zhenya paid no attention and continued to nibble on the inside of his thighs and then suck on the soft flesh between his legs. Kwon Taek Joo's penis, which was drooping down, now stood up. There was semen or something leaking out of the hole. The inserter is also pushed out a bit.

"...Uhm."

Kwon Taek Joo was startled when Zhenya started to pull it out. His urethra spasmed. Zhenya caressed his glans while stroking and soothing his entire penis. Again and again, Zhenya gently pressed his tongue against the hole and carefully pulled out the lubricant-filled inserter. Kwon Taek Joo felt his back heat up every time the stimulation points were brushed out. When the insertion falls out, semen is blocked from erupting.

Kwon Taek Joo covered his face with his hands and cursed. Zhenya stroked his struggling penis and continuously kissed the back of his hand until Kwon Taek-Joo stubbornly gave up and dropped his hand to accept his kiss.

—

Kwon Taek Joo suddenly opened his eyes. Vision gradually becomes clearer. Did he faint again? The pillow seemed to have also collapsed, how long had he been lying like that? His chest and stomach were completely pressed against the bed. His lungs were also compressed. Kwon Taek Joo turned over and lay back, feeling like every muscle in his body was screaming.

"Ah... I'll die."

Even the moans were drowned out miserably. Really. Shouldn't have provoked that guy in the first place. He was tormented by Zhenya all night and regretted what he said. He tried to withdraw midway but there was no way Zhenya would agree. Kwon Taek Joo's body seemed to be folded in many different ways like going to physical therapy.

Is it still Saturday or Sunday? What time is it? Perhaps there was no communication from headquarters. Even with such curiosity, he still couldn't stand up. Kwon Taek Joo lazily rubbed his head on the soft pillow. As usual, the place lying next to him was still warm. Kwon Taek Joo could hear the sound of water flowing in the distance. Even though he had exerted all his strength all night, Zhenya still had more than enough strength to move.

"That guy is not human, that's for sure."

(Only saying this now??)

Kwon Taek Joo complained and was about to sleep a little more when the phone rang. The sound is not from inside the room. Or just stop picking up the phone? Thinking for a moment, he tried to stand up. Anyway, if it's a call from headquarters, it's entirely his responsibility.

A very strange feeling in his butt every time he walked. Kwon Taek Joo's thighs ached and he couldn't describe what was going on in his stomach.

The phone was on the kitchen table. It seemed like Zhenya had picked it up to look at it. Kwon Taek Joo picked up the phone and checked the caller. It was a number not in the phonebook, probably an advertising call. While waiting, the vibrating sound gradually subsided.

Kwon Taek Joo checked the missed calls, there is no contact from headquarters. What stood out was Kang Chan Woo's message with the location and time of the alumni meeting and a request for him to attend. He had forgotten and focused all his attention on Zhenya since he returned.

Kwon Taek Joo went back to the top and looked at the number he just dialed. The last few numbers on the number line look familiar. Who is that? He was searching his memory for a while when an incoming call appeared on the screen. Yes, that's the number. Kwon Taek Joo picked up the phone.

"Yes?"

-Hello? Kwon Taek Joo?

It seemed like he knew the person on the other end even though it was only through their voice. More than 10 years have passed. The human voice will also change in pitch over time.

However, Kwon Taek Joo is still recognizable.

-It's me, Yuna Hyun.

5.17 Side Story

How did you two become so close?

Yuna said that she likes Kwon Taek Joo's heartless side. Kwon Taek Joo did not deny the dating rumors of the two, nor did he keep his distance from Yuna. He himself doesn't care about rumors because no one will suffer any harm from those rumors.

(Yuna is Yuna Hyun just short for Yuna)

At that time, Kwon Taek Joo also did not have a love interest. That's the biggest reason he didn't feel the need to explain. When Kwon Taek Joo was recognized as Yuna Hyun's boyfriend, the gossip behind her back also decreased. They were no longer upset when she refused sympathy and set clear boundaries or when Yuna did not attend meetings or private events. Everyone assumed it was because she was dating and they understood it themselves. Sometimes they just blame Kwon Taek Joo for monopolizing his girlfriend too much, but anyway, it's more comfortable than before.

So is Kwon Taek Joo. Troubles are also greatly reduced when he goes with Yuna Hyun, sometimes even more comfortable than going out with friends. Yuna Hyun did not ask any personal questions or interfere in his life, nor did she ask for any unreasonable favors or requests. Instead, she reserved a place in the classroom or the library, lent him books and papers needed to write reports, shared his assignments, and helped him a lot. Yuna said it was to compete in good faith, but he didn't know if she was reciprocating in her own way.

Contrary to everyone's predictions and rumors, in reality, there was no love between the two. At least that's what Kwon Taek Joo thinks. He never saw Yuna Hyun as a woman. It seems that there is no place for love in Yuna Hyun's dictionary. He didn't know if it was her desire for success or not, but in his memory, Yuna always looked straight ahead. It took him a while to find out why.

"I grew up in an orphanage."

That was around the time Yuna Hyun enrolled in the language training and student exchange program. If there were no other changes, it would be natural for her to be chosen.

Around that time, Kwon Taek Joo was preparing to enlist in the army. Is that the reason she confided? One time, Yuna confided in him. When he first heard about this, he couldn't help but wonder because he often saw family photos in her wallet.

"I think I've seen pictures of your family before."

"That's right, I was adopted."

Yuna Hyun replied nonchalantly and shook the empty soju glass. Kwon Taek Joo was very surprised but he didn't show it and just quietly filled her cup.

"My adoptive father was a firefighter."

"What happened?"

"Because he died because of his career, when I was in high school."

He nodded gently. At that time, Kwon Taek Joo's situation was not much different. Yuna Hyun also knows that.

"I heard that your father also died while on duty, so I feel sympathy. You know very well what will happen to the family if one day the head of the family dies without warning."

Maybe that's why Yuna Hyun proactively approached him. Not simply because she considered Kwon Taek Joo a competitor, not because of his indifference, but because he also had a similar situation.

"I am the child of a single mother. As soon as I was born, I was taken to an orphanage and grew up there until I was seven. My foster father often goes there to serve, and he's really quiet. I don't know why, but he treats me exceptionally well. I don't know if it's because I also like that person or not. Sometimes he came with his colleagues at the fire station, and other times he came with his foster mother."

Yuna Hyun's face flashed with happiness as she recalled the past. It was the face of someone immersed in a dream. That was also the first time Kwon Taek Joo saw her smile like that.

"From the beginning, I liked my adoptive mother. Every time I watch TV, I wish I had a mother with the image I imagined, kind, friendly, talkative and very caring. I cried with joy when I heard that you two would become my parents. I cried so much that they worried that I was afraid to go with them. That's how we became a family, and when I was in elementary school, my mother had a younger brother. She is a precious child born after 10 years of marriage. All adults say they are lucky. After being adopted, I had a younger brother and there were many big and small events in the family. I was really happy because I had never felt anything like this before. I'm like a different person. I couldn't sleep because I was impatiently waiting for a new member of the family. I wanted to do so many things for her when she was born."

Suddenly, an obvious story like 'an adopted child lost his position after his biological child was born' appeared in Kwon Taek Joo's mind. Yuna Hyun shook his head.

"Even after my younger brother was born, my parents always supported and loved me. My younger brother is very cute and always listens to me. An ideal family that I could only imagine has come true. At that time, every day was truly filled with joy and happiness..."

Yuna Hyun spoke passionately and then suddenly sighed, feeling a bit regretful.

"Then my father passed away. When a large fire broke out in a commercial building, he rushed to rescue those trapped inside but was unable to return. I feel like half the world has collapsed. Just sad, empty and hopeless. But the misfortune did not end there."

What happened? Kwon Taek Joo was curious but didn't rush to intervene, just waiting for the conversation to continue.

"Like normal children, I kept my position throughout the funeral. I also want to do that. There were many people who came to visit, relatives, father's colleagues, friends and neighbors... One day before the burial, an old colleague arrived very late. He asked if I was the eldest child, I said 'yes' but didn't know anything. Then he told a strange story."

Kwon Taek Joo tilted his head to listen. You can't guess the story behind it.

Yuna Hyun reminisced and smiled as if there was something unreasonable. For a moment, Yuna Hyun's face was confused with mixed emotions.

"Actually, I am the biological daughter of my deceased father. I heard that there was a girl that my father secretly met with my mother outside, and that girl gave birth to me but was completely unable to raise me, so she sent me to an orphanage. My dad received the news late and then continuously volunteered to meet me. Because my father always cared about me, my mother offered to adopt me."

"...What??"

"It's not trustworthy because he told that story when he was drunk. I don't know how close that colleague was to my father, but I can't ignore it."

"What happened? According to a former colleague, the late husband had an affair and gave birth to a child because his wife was infertile and secretly visited the child at the orphanage and deceived his wife to adopt the child. It was like a bomb falling on the life full of dedication and devotion of the deceased. Whether that's true or not, I can't imagine how my adoptive mother and younger brother must have felt. I didn't even know what to say at that time."

"My mother refused to take a test to confirm paternity because she said it was not necessary, she did not want to offend the deceased, and father was not that kind of person, so we had to trust him. It's better to have to do it! After hearing that, the whole family was no longer the same. I feel my mother is upset every time she treats me, and I also feel sorry for my mother and younger brother."

Yuna Hyun drank the glass she had been holding in one gulp. Then she shrugged and let out a long breath. When she spoke again, her voice was as strong as usual.

"From then on, I thought I should be independent. It will be very difficult for the mother to raise and take care of her younger brother alone. I need to take care of myself so I don't become a burden."

Only then did Kwon Taek Joo understand why Yuna Hyun worked tirelessly, why she always struggled to maintain high grades.

"It doesn't make sense but I often think about whether everything would be okay if my father hadn't passed away. Because of that, I want to create a machine that can be taken into dangerous places that humans cannot enter during rescue and firefighting operations. I hope there won't be any more sacrifices like my father."

Either way, he was the one who created a family for Yuna Hyun. It seems like Yuna Hyun still remembers the happy times when he was alive. And maybe she will live like that for the rest of her life.

"I told my mom I was going to become an exchange student."

"Did you say anything?"

"Congratulations on doing well, proud of myself. But really in my heart... Even if it's just once, I hope she'll keep me, that she'll be sad if I leave."

Yuna Hyun smiled helplessly. Her eyes were still glued to the empty soju glass.

"I think moderate happiness is good. But if I could do it, I wouldn't feel the way I do now. I love that time that I can't get back, but now everything is empty and nothing can fill it. I feel like I'm alone in this world."

Yuna Hyun sighed and raised her head. The two people's eyes met. The eyes are brown and transparent, surrounded by a light tear.

"Kwon Taek Joo, please stand by me."

(This was all a flashback, if you didn’t know)

—

[...Taek Joo]

Kwon Taek Joo was startled by the call. Zhenya, who had just finished showering, was standing behind him, naked.

[Crazy man, put something on.]

He ignored Kwon Taek Joo's criticism and walked towards the refrigerator. The guy's penis was redder than usual, he didn’t know if it was from the shower or from having sex all night. The condom mark is still dark red, looking so seductive. Not to mention the fingerprints left on his arms and broad back. Kwon Taek Joo suddenly looked down at his nails. They had been cut short but the consequences were still the same.

Zhenya took a bottle of water from the refrigerator and drank, his eyes fixed on Kwon Taek Joo.

[Who called?]

He tilted his chin towards the phone in Kwon Taek Joo's hand. It seemed he heard the phone. You can generally answer that it's a call from his mother or from headquarters because it will be less annoying. But Kwon Taek Joo still answered honestly. There's also nothing to hide from each other.

[College friend.]

[College friends? It must have been 10 years since you graduated?]

[Uhm.]

[Why are they suddenly calling at this time?]

[...What, it’s not like I can't be called. You say it like it's strange.]

[That's because the listener finds it strange. Or are you hiding something?]

Zhenya looked at him and asked what kind of person that was. There was nothing for him to suspect, and no reason to hide it, but there was also no benefit in saying who it was. Who knows, maybe disaster will come to the very normal lives of innocent people.

Kwon Taek Joo complained of hunger and quickly changed the subject. Zhenya looked disapproving but out of habit, he put a pot of water on the stove. Looks like the guy is cooking ramen again. Normally he doesn't complain, but today Kwon Taek Joo wanted to divert Zhenya's attention by asking for spicy stir-fried noodles on the menu. He bluntly said that it wasn't food. Kwon Taek Joo promised that he would definitely give him a bite to eat.

(Said like if it wasn’t the spicy stir-fried noodles, he would let Zhenya have some.)

When asked by Yuna Hyun if he would attend the gathering, Kwon Taek Joo replied that he would come. It wasn't because he was curious or immersed in old memories, he just felt like he should see her one last time.

—

"Ah, here."

Kwon Taek Joo raised his hand. Yoon Jong Woo was running excitedly, gradually slowing down. That's because a tall foreigner was sitting across from Kwon Taek Joo, with his back towards the entrance. Looking from behind, he was still skeptical, but the feeling of insecurity did not disappear. Then suddenly Yoon Jong Woo's body became as hard as stone. That's because Zhenya, the crazy guy from Russia, turned to look at Yoon Jong Woo.

"Senior...?"

He rolled his eyes and looked at Kwon Taek Joo. Yoon Jong Woo ran over as soon as he got off work because he had promised to serve beef for dinner, and also didn't announce that anyone else would be joining the two. Of course, if it's a normal person then it won't be a problem, no matter who it is.

But if that person is Zhenya, it's a different story. If he knew he would eat with him, Yoon Jong Woo would never come to this place.

"Sit down first. I'm hungry."

Kwon Taek Joo patted the chair next to him without any explanation. Yoon Jong Woo clutched his bag strap and glanced at Zhenya. What if you run away right now? Was he grabbed by the back of his neck and pulled back immediately? Or will his neck be broken saying he feels insulted by being ignored? After drawing violent pictures, Yoon Jong Woo hesitantly sat down. Zhenya stared at him. An unreasonable feeling of fear when facing the clear, unblinking eyes aimed at me. Are people's eyes supposed to be so clear?

"What do you want to eat??"

"Can I go home without eating?"

"What's wrong? I said I would buy you beef."

"Suddenly I don't want to eat anymore. I'm not very hungry either. Ah, it seems like my stomach is full! I have a bloated stomach, senior."

"If you have a bloated stomach, you have to eat a lot to get better. Right?"

"No, since you have someone to eat with, I'll go."

The man begged "Please" but Kwon Taek Joo called the staff while listening and asked for many dishes himself.

Before long, the dining table was filled with side dishes. However, Zhenya still did not take his eyes off Yoon Jong Woo. The look was so intense that even though the man tried to avoid it, he couldn't help but pay attention. If he faced a tiger, would he feel like this? If he were trapped with sharks in a large water tank, he didn't know what it would be like. His knees were so tense that he lost feeling.

"Don't just look at each other, say hello to each other. After all, we are friends."

"...Yes?"

"You two are the same age."

Kwon Taek Joo explained superficially. Yoon Jong Woo also knew that Zhenya had the same year of birth as him because Kwon Taek Joo often asked him to investigate Zhenya's background. "After all, it's you." It was the strangest sound he had ever heard in his life. Instinct warns that it should never happen.

"Senior. Why do you treat me like this?"

The boy grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's arm and shook it pitifully before letting go. Zhenya even looked directly at Yoon Jong Woo more openly. Did he do anything to offend him? Yoon Jong Woo was startled and closed his mouth. Even the lips curled silently into the mouth. Two hands obediently placed on his knees.

[Is that you? Are you the junior who drank with Teak Joo?]

Yoon Jong Woo wondered if the crazy Russian had a voice like that. It's so different. It wasn't as deep as he thought, but it was a tone he had never heard before. In addition, he felt a strange chill. Is relaxed and contorted intonation characteristic of Russian? He didn't know Russian so he couldn't know. What did Zhenya's first words mean? Kwon Taek Joo smiled next to him, so he also raised the corners of his mouth.

Kwon Taek Joo forced a smile to warn Zhenya.

[Hey, stop staring. He's scared.]

[What did you do?]

[You have to maintain a minimum of politeness with someone you just met for the first time. Smile, kid.]

Yoon Jong Woo rolled his eyes at the back and forth conversation in Russian. Zhenya continued to glance at him displeased. They say you can't spit on a smiley face, but apparently that's not true in Russia. Cold eyes seem to represent all kinds of negative expressions. Like there's a thorn in the eye.

Kwon Taek Joo moved the corn cheese, fruit salad, and potato pancakes in front of him to the other side while saying something to Zhenya. Those items don't really suit Kwon Taek Joo's taste, but he

usually doesn't bother to move them. Even crazy people can't eat spicy food because they're foreigners?

While watching curiously, Kwon Taek Joo suddenly wrapped his arms around Yoon Jong Woo's neck. His head was tilted that way.

"Jong Woo, I need to ask you a favor."

"Don't."

"What is a good junior? Don't be like that, help me once."

"Do you know how many times that one-time thing has happened? You must have a conscience."

Instead of talking, he looked into Zhenya's eyes. The stare at his forehead was too painful to ignore.

[You two are very close, right?]

It was still in Russian so he couldn't understand, but he could clearly see that Zhenya hated Yoon Jong Woo. Blue eyes like a sharp blade.

"Senior. Can you tell that person to stop staring at me? Looks like he doesn't like you."

"Don't be like that. You two are compatible."

"We aren't. I will forget that person as soon as I leave this store. I will live without knowing anything."

"Just for today"

"I said I don't like it."

"Then it can't work."

Kwon Taek Joo muttered. Yoon Jong Woo has an unfortunate premonition.

"Why not?"

"You have to play with him today."

In an instant, Yoon Jong Woo's expression disappeared. He shook his head and was sure he had heard wrong. Kwon Taek Joo nodded and said he heard correctly then burst out laughing. Yoon Jong Woo immediately turned serious and whispered quickly.

"What nonsense are you talking about?"

"Hey, let's look at the situation. Just half a day. Hmm?"

"No, that person is not a child, why do I have to watch over him?"

Yoon Jong Woo also unconsciously pointed at Zhenya. Zhenya frowned. Even with that, his index finger twisted. In a situation like this, how can we stay together for more than a day? It's impossible.

Kwon Taek Joo's persuasion continues.

"If that bastard follows, it will be very troublesome."

"Where are you going, senior?"

"Me? I came to meet my university classmates."

"Then it's okay to take him there. Show them what that crazy Russian looks like, tell them he's the Russian ambassador to Korea. You will become the main character."

"Ah, stop joking."

"What senior is saying is a joke."

"Actually, I only asked for help today. Hmm? I will buy all the items you want."

"Enough. I said I bought it because I didn't know how expensive it was."

"Even if it's expensive, it won't cost more than 500 million won."

"500 million? Ha, senior. Even if it's a game item, it's not virtual money, it's real money."

"I know."

"But you said spending 5,000 won on items is a waste?"

"That's right, but...I have my own money. That kid gave me a tip. If you earn dirty money, you have to spend it roughly to reduce the feeling of guilt, so I'll spend it on you."

What did he say? Should you commit? Suddenly, a limited item appeared in Yoon Jong Woo's mind equivalent to a whole month's salary. A very rare item for domestic cars. He didn't believe that Kwon Taek Joo would buy it for him, but if it was money from Zhenya then the story seemed more believable.

If he spends half a day with a pure-blooded Russian madman, Yoon Jong Woo can get special items that he can't afford. His level will increase dramatically and his position in the game will also change significantly.

But is it worth risking his life for? Yoon Jong Woo hesitated for a moment then shook his head.

"Ah, I don't know. Seniors are doing their work, so why should I sacrifice?"

"I only trust you..."

"I told you not to trust me! Please don't believe it! I told you I don't like it!"

Yoon Jong Woo shouted violently. Kwon Taek Joo also had to raise the white flag.

"Then there is no other way."

Kwon Taek Joo slumped his shoulders and sighed. The series of actions of picking up meat and placing it on the fire table looks very tiring. Not interested. How long has it been since Yoon Jong

Woo was swayed by Kwon Taek Joo? Now he was immune to that level of acting. Today you just need to eat beef or something delicious and that's enough.

The problem is the harsh atmosphere Zhenya creates. His eyes were still glued to Yoon Jong Woo's body and did not leave. If his gaze were a knife, it felt like the epidermis was being sliced open little by little and then completely decomposed.

He couldn't eat even a side dish and just sucked on his empty chopsticks.

"What are you doing? Eat this, it's all cooked."

Kwon Taek Joo said as he cut the meat. He even asked for a fork from a passing employee as if he just remembered it. The fork he received was placed in front of Zhenya. A fork big enough to easily harm a human like killing an ant in his hand looks like a fork used by children. Because in the hands of a foreigner, the fork didn't look anything special, but of course he wouldn't have any difficulty cutting off your life with that small fork.

Yoon Jong Woo suppressed his random thoughts and diligently picked up the meat in front of him. The meat is grilled just right so it melts in your mouth. The taste of the gravy left on the tongue is also excellent.

"It's delicious. Let's eat more."

Kwon Taek Joo piled up meat in front of Yoon Jong Woo. In fact, he himself didn't eat anything. Yoon Jong Woo offered to grill instead but he refused. Kwon Taek Joo wrapped the meat and gently stuffed it into his mouth before Zhenya's puzzled eyes.

Kwon Taek Joo grilled the meat for a long time then stood up from his seat. Yoon Jong Woo suddenly grabbed his wrist.

"Eh, where are you going?"

"I'm going to go to the bathroom and to smoke a cigarette."

"Then I will go with you."

"Why would you chase me to the bathroom? Keep eating, kid."

Kwon Taek Joo rejected Yoon Jong Woo. Before leaving his seat, he also asked Zhenya for something in Russian. Zhenya reluctantly nodded. He turned back and glanced at Yoon Jong Woo from top to bottom and clicked his tongue.

Soon there were only two people left at the table. No chatting. The meat was burning on the stove, but Yoon Jong Woo didn't dare touch it. He just took turns looking at the bathroom and the door and waiting for Kwon Taek Joo to return.

But Kwon Taek Joo did not appear even after endless time passed. Feeling strange, Yoon Jong Woo took his phone out of his pocket and tried sending a text message.

"Senior?

Why are you taking so long?

I'm suffocating and about to die."

"Sorry, Jong Woo. Thanks to you."

"What?

Senior?

Isn't that right?

"I'll leave quickly and come back so please monitor carefully so that kid doesn't do anything else. Well, if that kid suddenly disappears, call me right away. Anti-terrorism. Protect civilians. Just think so."

Kwon Taek Joo did not read Yoon Jong Woo's message after the last sentence. He tried calling right away but as expected he didn't pick up.

"Unbelievable!"

Yoon Jong Woo jumped up and screamed. Immediately, the attention of everyone around him was focused on him. Zhenya also suddenly looked at Yoon Jong Woo. He felt dissatisfied at being looked at like a crazy person by a crazy person. In the end, what do you have to do to make him obediently stay here?

Yoon Jong Woo sat down on the chair with tears in his eyes. Sweat poured down like rain all over his body. The meat on the grill is burning black like Yoon Jong Woo's lap. The staff came and asked if he needed to turn off the fire. He just wanted to beg to let him go home.

Yet the employee also turned away cruelly. Zhenya still crossed his arms and silently watched Yoon Jong Woo, he could only look out the window but nothing came into view.

「Come to think of it, I have something to ask.」

Zhenya suddenly opened his mouth. Yoon Jong Woo was startled because he never thought he would speak first. Perhaps out of consideration for his audience, he used English. That is American English. However, it sounds like a completely different language because of the Russian pronunciation and intonation. Is it because of his dazzling appearance that what he said just now sounded so luxurious?

"Star? Ask me? I mean... Ah, ask」

Even if they were the same age or friends, he couldn't treat them comfortably. Yoon Jong Woo suddenly stuttered. Zhenya asked incredulously.

「Every time Taek Joo calls me, he usually uses the word "새끼" in Korean. What does that mean?"

(새끼 / saekki, has different meaning on the situation, it can mean, bastard, baby, kid, or more on the situation)

A completely unpredictable question arose. The train of thought stopped for a moment. How should I answer so that I can be safe? Yoon Jong Woo swallowed his saliva.

If you look back at Kwon Taek Joo's daily words and actions, he has the answer. When he first joined the company, he was a difficult boss to approach. The two don't see each other often, and when they do meet they never talk about unnecessary things. So Yoon Jong Woo thinks he is a serious person.

That's a mistake. After getting a little closer, Kwon Taek Joo joked around and took care of him more. Except when he works, he's like an older brother next door. This bastard, that bastard, that bastard, in general is proof that he has gotten closer to Yoon Jong Woo.

However, if the target was Zhenya, would it sound more like a curse than an expression of friendliness. This relationship was very complicated from the beginning. No matter how beautiful and elegant he is, he cannot be lovable.

The answer is out, but the problem is that Yoon Jong Woo can't confess right away. He's a crazy guy who doesn't care about other people's eyes, but you can't tell him that's a curse.

While drinking water and wasting time, how should Yoon Jong Woo respond to keep this small network safe? He exploded thinking.

「I searched on the translator and found that it means 'Baby'. Is it really like that?」

Yoon Jong Woo spit out the water he was drinking after hearing the question and then coughed. Zhenya frowned, waiting for an answer.

Is that better? At least it's not a curse word? It's impossible to know what a monster is thinking, either live or die. Yoon Jong Woo threw his trump card.

"Yes. That's right. Almost the same. It's a term of endearment used between people who are very, very close."

Kwon Taek Joo may get into trouble later, but the problem is that Yoon Jong Woo has to live now to see that. It was he who first put you in this situation. This level is not even revenge.

[Hmm... Baby...]

Zhenya mumbled a smile and sat back in the chair. Yoon Jong Woo didn't know what he was thinking, but the smile on his lips took a long time to fade.

5.18 Side Story

Immediately after getting out of the car, Kwon Taek Joo started walking. He sent Zhenya to Yoon Jong Woo but inside he was not very comfortable, no matter how many times he tried to rationalize that there was no other way.

To be honest, Kwon Taek Joo thought that Zhenya wouldn't sit still if he said he was going to the class reunion. It was clear that he wouldn't let him go or would interfere in ways he couldn't imagine. Zhenya had chased him to his overseas activity location, so there was no guarantee that he wouldn't show up at a group meeting.

According to Yoon Jong Woo's personality of pursuing absolute safety, he will definitely please Zhenya, but he cannot rest assured because Zhenya is too unpredictable. As a precaution, Kwon Taek Joo asked Zhenya to protect Yoon Jong Woo on the grounds that he was in a dangerous situation due to some incident. The openly annoyed guy accepted the request after convincing him that he could complete his job and that Kwon Taek Joo didn't have to worry if he left it to him. He felt a pang of conscience when remembering the guy's proud face, it seemed like he had to return as soon as possible.

The class meeting location is a traditional pub in front of the school gate. It seems they rented out the entire store. There was only noise but no music was heard outside the door. Kwon Taek Joo opened the door and went inside. At that sign, several of his classmates turned towards the door.

"Huh? Who is this?

"Kwon Taek Joo?"

"Hey, you’re really here."

"Long time no see, buddy."

Kwon Taek Joo greeted everyone, some people came up to him and asked to shake his hand. I don't know how much they drank, but the air was filled with the smell of alcohol. Kwon Taek Joo smiled and asked, "Is everyone okay?". The hand he held out did not hold tightly but just patted gently.

Estimated to be about 30 people in attendance, Yuna Hyun was sitting at the back of the group and chatting. While exchanging greetings with friends around them, their eyes suddenly met. Yuna Hyun laughed first. Kwon Taek Joo just nodded slightly.

First, he was taken to an empty chair. As soon as they sat down, everyone started drinking. Kwon Taek Joo drank it all in one go and put the glass down, the wine was immediately filled again.

"Hey, why did you cut off contact like that?"

"Everyone thought you were dead."

"Really. We heard that you joined the special forces but there was no news after that, so we wondered what happened?”

"How come no one knows you changed your number?"

Everyone scrambled to ask questions, Kwon Taek Joo just laughed. When entering NIS, for security purposes, he changed his contact number frequently. Even his colleagues at NIS asked if it was necessary to do so, but he always wanted everything to be carefully prepared. It is a world where if personal information is leaked indiscriminately and if Kwon Taek Joo himself is careless, his identity will soon be revealed, meaning he will soon lose his status as an agent.

After a few glasses of wine, the atmosphere becomes closer. Everyone present at the table was curious about Kwon Taek Joo's current situation. It seems everyone has run out of things to say to each other.

"What do you do now?"

"I just do this and that."

"Do you work or do your own business?"

"Kwon Taek Joo, I heard you haven't graduated yet? I was very surprised to hear that today. I thought you got into a big company.

"Ah, so it is."

"Huh? In today's era of technical specifications, even if you die, you still have to get a diploma."

"Let's look at something that has nothing to do with specifications. Are you a professional soldier now? Did you get these muscles after serving in the army?"

"Hey kid, look at his beautiful body. Do you do any physical work?"

People did not hesitate to touch Kwon Taek Joo's thighs and biceps. For him, this is the most difficult time. After seeing each other for a long time, people often ask about each other's careers. Kwon Taek Joo often gives short or evasive answers, and it's awkward when people ask or ask for business cards about work. This also seems to have the biggest impact in the narrow relationships between people.

"Are you doing manual labor? Why can't you say that?”

Some people jump to conclusions without getting a definitive answer. Others seemed to guess that Kwon Taek Joo was doing something that was not easy to say, and that was why he hesitated. In fact, the main characters attending gatherings often do things that are recognized by society, or they are people who consider friendship to be the joy of life. Kwon Taek Joo does not fall into those categories. If it weren't for Yuna Hyun, he probably wouldn't have appeared here.

"Similarly, I risk my life every day."

He laughed to keep the atmosphere from sinking. Everyone thought it was a joke and laughed along.

"Are you married yet?"

"Not yet."

"What are you doing if you don't have a family yet? I already have 2 children."

"I know. I'm like this because I have to work so hard."

"Do you live to work?"

"That must be it."

Kwon Taek Joo laughed again. People at the table are married or about to get married. As if in competition, people show each other photos of their families or future brides. He was certainly old enough to do the same.

Every time he faces an ordinary life, Kwon Taek Joo realizes how special his job is. It seemed like he was single-handedly drawing a curve in a similar trajectory of life, but every time he imagined the end, he was in an unhappy mood.

"Are you still seeing someone though? I'm sure the girls won't leave you alone."

"Looking at him, I immediately saw that he had a lover, written right on his forehead."

"Yes...Yes but..."

"Yes, yes, what are you talking about? How long have you been dating?”

"Probably about a year."

"At that point, it's time to get married. How is that person?

"Just a state employee"

"Ooh? What is the age?

"4 years younger than me"

"Wow, there's a 4 year age gap, you don't even need to look at it to know that it matches. Is that person beautiful?

"Uhm... Objectively speaking, yes."

"Wow, this guy is really fascinated, isn't he? You guys! Kwon Taek Joo's girlfriend is not only normally beautiful, nor subjectively beautiful, but also 'objectively beautiful'!"

(Yes, “she” is objectively beautiful indeed)

One guy suddenly stood up and shouted. Boos and cheers rang out from everywhere.

"Hey, I'm curious what that person looks like. Don't you have a picture? Let's see."

"Alright! We will look and objectively judge whether it is beautiful or not."

"Let me see", the cheerful chatter, they excitedly patted the shoulder as if inciting the person next to them.

"There are no pictures, guys."

It is not difficult to control those who intend to rob the phone. Even when everyone in the group booed and drove the atmosphere, Kwon Taek Joo did not move like a stone statue. Because there was no harvest, everyone's spirit gradually lost.

Then, the topic turned to college anecdotes, the current situation of some seniors, juniors and professors, and social issues. While laughing and talking, Yuna Hyun and Kwon Taek Joo made eye contact. He wanted to greet her properly but it was awkward to move right now.

Even though they didn't say it out loud, everyone clearly felt the reunion between the two. If he did anything to attract attention, the crowd would tease him. They won't care about Yuna Hyun getting married or Kwon Taek Joo having a lover.

For that reason, he heard news of Yuna Hyun from the people around him.

"Yuna studied abroad right after graduating and received her master's degree in Massachusetts. Do you know company M? Now she works as a senior researcher there."

"Did she meet her husband at that company? Probably a foreigner, right?"

"It's no joke now, after getting married he will get a doctorate. I'm curious how far he will go."

"That's so good."

"But you two don't contact each other? When we were in school, the two of us were together every day."

The surrounding suddenly became quiet at someone's question. Not knowing if it reached Yuna Hyun's ears or not, she also looked towards Kwon Taek Joo.

"I told you. Worrying about my own life is already too much."

The story that everyone was waiting for was interrupted. Then, Kwon Taek Joo changed the subject by asking about his absent friends. Yuna Hyun also immediately turned away and continued the interrupted conversation. Everyone also wanted to say more about the story, but there was no reason to add or subtract words back and forth.

After about two hours, empty seats appeared one by one. The remaining people also dropped in the gloomy atmosphere. The ventilation system in the store was quite poor, so just breathing Kwon Taek Joo felt drunk. He went outside to get some fresh air. Two alcohol-soaked lungs quickly inhaled pure oxygen. It seemed like his thoughts were finally clearing up a bit.

Kwon Taek Joo suddenly thought of cigarettes. Looking at the convenience store across the street, he was considering whether to buy a package. The shop door opened and someone walked out. That's Yuna Hyun. He looked at her as she came closer. Then, she took out the cigarette pack and gave it to Kwon Taek Joo. He did not refuse and took out a cigarette.

"Long time no see. It's been 10 years since we last saw each other, right?"

"Yes. Around that."

They stood next to each other and just blew smoke. The conversation began in earnest just after lighting a cigarette.

"How are you doing?"

"I live a busy life, sort of."

"Is your mother okay?"

"Yes."

"You said you're not married yet? Nothing special? You guys probably want me to marry you more than anyone."

"What are you talking about? You can get married just by making eye contact."

"But why aren't you married yet? I heard earlier that you have someone you're dating, 'objectively beautiful."

"Hey, are you still teasing me?"

Kwon Taek Joo pretended to be angry and smiled at the same time, that smile didn't seem to change.

"No, I just want to make it less serious if you introduce yourself. Does your girlfriend feel pressured?"

Everyone believes that Kwon Taek Joo's lover is a woman. Kwon Taek Joo himself didn't know that he would be involved with a man until a year ago, so it was natural.

"It's not like that. Everyone already knows each other, they're almost close friends. That person sees my mother more often than I do."

"Then it's even stranger. Is your lover ready to propose? Kwon Taek Joo, have you ever acted imprudently?"

"What do I do?"

"I'm surprised you didn't know."

"Everything is fine now, why does it have to be like that? That person also doesn't think about getting married."

"Have you checked?"

"Should we definitely check that out?"

"You think you can see everything but sometimes you don't. You're a bit careless."

Kwon Taek Joo didn't know if he was getting love counseling or if Yuna Hyun was venting old resentments when they met again after more than 10 years.

"Marriage does not prove sincerity. Each person has a different way of loving each other, as if marriage is the only right answer and a happy ending. I don't understand either. We can be together if we like, right?"

"...."

Yuna's face was bewildered. Cigarette butts that have not yet been shaken fly in the wind.

"What was that reaction?"

"Oh my god, Kwon Taek Joo. The words that come out of your mouth are filled with love... That is something that can be used to live a long life."

"No, I didn't say anything about love? I just mean it in general."

"What's not to love anymore? Why are your ears so red?"

"Why are my ears red?"

Kwon Taek Joo covered his ears. It's not that it's not, but why is it so hot behind his ears? Maybe because he drank too much?

He grabbed the cigarette pack from Yuna Hyun's hand. He took out another cigarette, put it in his mouth and lit it. Yuna Hyun continued to smirk next to him.

"Talk about another story."

"Why is it fun?"

"Do you want to come in yet?"

"I know, I know."

Yuna Hyun grabbed the medicine package in Kwon Taek Joo's hand as if giving him a hand and told her story.

"This time I came back to completely arrange my life in Korea."

"Really? Are you planning to permanently settle abroad?

"Yes. Maybe. My future husband is American."

"What about your relatives?"

"After graduating from university and studying abroad, my relationships with them became even more sparse. So far, I have only returned to Korea twice. My mother's 60th birthday and my brother's graduation day. Now I just consider them as distant relatives. That way I don't have to be sad anymore, and my mother and younger brother are less inconvenienced. Maybe they will come to the wedding. My mother said she would help me with postpartum care after giving birth, but I don't know anymore. I don't know how things will turn out."

Kwon Taek Joo just nodded without saying a word. That's the way it is, what more can others say? From the beginning, Kwon Taek Joo was the type of person to quietly listen no matter what people said. He does not carelessly interfere in other people's affairs or impose his own ideas as a solution. That's why Yuna Hyun also freely shared her inner situation, like a solid bamboo forest where you don't have to worry about secrets being revealed.

Yuna Hyun suddenly turned to Kwon Taek Joo and looked at him meticulously from head to toe. She gave a mischievous smile. Kwon Taek Joo's expression was a bit uncomfortable.

"What's up?"

"You have become more handsome, Kwon Taek Joo. Now you look so manly. I was very curious about how you changed and how you lived. I really want to meet you at least once before going to America, but on the other hand, I'm also nervous. What should I do if my first love turns out to be a pot-bellied uncle?”

"That's how it should be."

Joking but not laughing, Yuna Hyun hit Kwon Taek Joo's back as if punishing him. He was also against letting her keep some beautiful memories in Korea.

The wind blows. The two were silent for a moment to let the wind calm down. A slight smile crossed his lips. People who have shared time together can reminisce about that time even without saying anything.

"You know what I said about you to my fiancé? There was a man who kicked me 11 times. After that, he was very curious. He said he really wants you to come to our wedding."

"So naughty. What's so funny about jokes when you're young?

"Is it like a joke? I mean it every time."

"What kind of joke is this again?"

"It's not a joke. I just pretended not to be embarrassed because I kept getting rejected."

Kwon Taek Joo clicked his tongue and thought he was heartless. He didn't know if Yuna Hyun really asked him on a date 11 times or not. But it was clear that he never accepted that confession seriously. To Kwon Taek Joo, she is a friend, a competitor, and someone who shares the same pain. He has never drawn any other relationship.

However, that doesn't mean Yuna Hyun doesn't have charm. Even compared to the women Kwon Taek Joo met and broke up with, they were not unattractive. But why is that so?

"The last time was probably at your brother's funeral, right?"

That was the time when Kwon Taek Joo had just been discharged from the army. A phone call came in the middle of the night, and he was extremely scared. For no reason at all, Kwon Taek Joo remembered the last phone call he had with his brother. The omens did not go astray. That's how Kwon Taek Joo received his brother's death notice.

His mother was not conscious during the process of moving to the designated location. As if possessed, she muttered unintelligible words to herself. Kwon Taek Joo prayed to all the gods that this was just a mistake, prayed for a miracle to happen, and prayed over and over again.

But that desperate prayer had no effect. His brother returned with a cold corpse. Even the body is no longer intact. The mother could not bear it and collapsed. Kwon Taek Joo couldn't do anything. He only tragically realized his weakness and helplessness.

After hearing the news, teammates came to offer their condolences. Yuna Hyun was also in the crowd that day. Even after everyone left, she stayed. She was in no hurry to approach Kwon Taek Joo or try to comfort him. The next morning, Kwon Taek Joo found her.

Yuna Hyun continued to reflect on that moment.

"I said 'I want to be by your side'. Do you know what you said?"

The memory is not clear, because it happened a long time ago, and Kwon Taek Joo intentionally forgot what happened during that time. It seemed like the first time he didn't think her confession was a joke.

"You said 'My mother is the only one left. I wish you could meet someone who thinks of you first and cherishes you, so I can't accept you.' I know why you said that so I didn't try any more. How is the person you are dating now? Did that person grow up and receive a lot of love? That person doesn't depend on you and doesn't need you to take care of her all the time?"

Kwon Taek Joo could not answer the next questions. That story is far different from Zhenya. Looking back, his situation hasn't changed at all. But why is it okay for Zhenya but not for Yuna Hyun?

"If that person is like that, congratulations, even if not, congratulations."

Kwon Taek Joo looked at Yuna Hyun with confusing words. She just laughed.

"That person is the one who defeated the stubborn Kwon Taek Joo."

As such. Zhenya was just as needy as Yuna Hyun, maybe even more so. Maybe that's why he always tries to cling to Kwon Taek Joo and follow him wherever he goes, no matter how far or how dangerous. If it wasn't Zhenya, no one would have been able to do it. No one will understand a lover who has many secrets, often goes on business trips and rarely gets to rest.

Zhenya even left everything behind and went to Korea. The boy has no past, interests or acquaintances in Korea. He can ignore the rest of his life, purely to be with Kwon Taek Joo. It would be much easier if Zhenya lured and captured him.

But he didn't, just because Zhenya didn't want to be hated by Kwon Taek Joo himself. He felt sorry for his patience and desires that were not human at the beginning.

For some reason, Kwon Taek Joo felt restless, like he had done something bad to Zhenya. And strangely enough, he missed Zhenya.

5.19 Side Story

“Kwon Taek Joo! Wake up. I don't know where you live."

Kwon Taek Joo fell asleep and was shaken violently. He completely fell asleep and was unresponsive. There were about 10 empty soju bottles lying around on the table, which was the amount of alcohol that Kwon Taek Joo drank alone.

Kwon Taek Joo planned to smoke a cigarette and then go in and have a drink to regain his good mood. That was his initial intention, but halfway through, he started to drink too much. Kwon Taek Joo didn't realize that he was just drinking without saying a word with a sad look on his face. Before and now, Kwon Taek Joo always became quieter when he had worries.

There were only about six people left in the pub, including Yuna and Kwon Taek Joo. He couldn't even fully control himself. It's past 3am. Yuna Hyun could not find a phone number related to Kwon Taek Joo, nor could she find his home address. She doesn't know where he lives because they haven't been in contact for nearly 10 years, but she also can't wait until Kwon Taek Joo wakes up. And even though she is a man, she cannot leave her close friend who she just met after 10 years.

Well, you should also check your ID card. After a moment of hesitation, Yuna Hyun began rummaging through Kwon Taek Joo's pockets. And despite being extremely careful, her hands still grazed his hips and thighs.

(Noo, not to a drunk person. I appreciate her for being careful though)

"Ugh... Zhenya..."

Kwon Taek Joo suddenly frowned and turned over. Zhenya? Is that your girlfriend's name? Yuna Hyun vaguely speculated and pulled the cell phone out of Kwon Taek Joo's hand. It was the only item on his person. No wallet or ID card.

Yuna Hyun naturally sighed. She tried checking his phone in case there might be some information, but it was locked. She tried to lift Kwon Taek Joo's eyelids, but the identification method on the phone was not fingerprint or iris. Even that last hope is gone.

Suddenly at that moment, a vibration rang out. Yuna Hyun was so surprised that she shrugged her shoulders. A call comes in on Kwon Taek Joo's cell phone. The caller is 'Zhenya'.

"...huh? Is that your girlfriend?"

(Boyfriend, does Zhenya sound like a girl's name??)

Yuna Hyun tilted her head and touched the call button. A security window appears continuously. Anyway, why so unnecessarily tight and detailed? She struggled to answer the call but couldn't do it. The vibration on the phone gradually turns off. And it started again immediately. This time the caller was also 'Zhenya'. Unanswered calls piled up.

"Honestly. What should I do!"

She stomped her feet in frustration.

Not long after, Yuna Hyun's phone rang. It was the call from the taxi she called earlier that had arrived.

"Hello? Oh yes. I'll be right out."

She really had no other choice, at least she had to rent a room and throw Kwon Taek Joo in there.

"Guys, the taxi is here. I will take him home, he will move there with me."

The remaining people followed Yuna Hyun's request and moved closer. Four people struggled to lift Kwon Taek Joo up, partly because he was unconscious so his body became even heavier.

(It’s funny to think Taek Joo needed four people to lift him up. Haha)

"Hey, hey, that's no good, everyone keep one side."

Under someone's direction, each person held Kwon Taek Joo's arms and legs tightly. In that way, the group of people left the store and went to the main street. Yuna Hyun also hurriedly followed with her coat and bag.

The taxi driver discovered the group of people, quickly got out of the car and opened the back seat door. The group struggled to push Kwon Taek Joo's head into the car.

Just then, a sudden roar came from afar. Looks like someone is enjoying showing off their speeding instincts. The noise grew louder and soon a Bugatti appeared. The car stopped in front as if blocking the taxi.

The group looked bewildered as the driver's door of the Bugatti opened. A tall foreigner got out of the car. He was a very handsome man with platinum blonde hair and handsome looks. The man approached with an expressionless face. His shadow covered the faces of the confused people.

[Come here.]

The unidentified large man grabbed Kwon Taek Joo with a foreign language. Yuna Hyun thought it was Russian, but she wasn't sure.

"You... Who are you?"

"Wait a minute!"

Kwon Taek Joo's classmates scuffled with the man without knowing why, but to no avail. Even though the four of them pulled him back, Kwon Taek Joo was still helplessly taken away. The mobile phone in Yuna Hyun's hand was also suddenly taken away.

The man placed Kwon Taek Joo on one shoulder and walked straight to his car. His signature look, energy, and attitude are all very rough, but the sequence of actions to put Kwon Taek Joo in the passenger seat is extremely cautious. The man closed the door then walked around the car and climbed into the driver's seat. After that, he just left without any explanation to the extremely confused group of people. The Bugatti disappeared from sight as quickly as it appeared.

"What was that?"

"Who exactly is that person?"

"Is it okay if we just let them go like that? Not a loan shark or organ trafficker or something?"

"If so, he would have stuffed him in the back seat or trunk. How could you take him away like that?"

"Yes, but..."

"But what language was it just now? Russian, right? What relationship does Kwon Taek Joo have?”

Everyone took turns asking questions. Even the taxi driver couldn't ignore it and participated in the story. Yuna Hyun also looked in the direction the Bugatti disappeared with worried eyes.

"That face... looks so familiar. I think I've seen it somewhere before."

A person working in the journalism industry tilted his head and said. Soon he took out his cell phone and searched for something. Focus on the man speaking a language presumably Russian and contrast it with images of important figures. Not long after, he let out a deep sigh.

"Right. As Russian Ambassador to Korea!"

"What?"

All eyes simultaneously turned to the empty street. Everyone opened their eyes wide but felt like they were dreaming.

—

The body trembled non-stop but those were not pleasant vibrations. The sudden impact made Kwon Taek Joo's already painful head feel heavy. He groaned and lifted his eyelids with difficulty. In his dim vision, he vaguely saw Zhenya's face.

Somehow he seemed angry. His eyes stared at Kwon Taek Joo sharply. He couldn't even see the usual sarcastic smile. Is it a dream?

"Zhenya.”

His tongue seemed to lag when he called Zhenya, his voice cracking. Maybe he drank too much. Even when Kwon Taek Joo closed his eyes and opened them again, his vision was still unclear.

He was thirsty, and his throat was burning. His lungs felt compressed and he couldn't even breathe, as if his entire body was being crushed by a rock. In the frustrating feeling of confinement, Kwon Taek Joo called out "Zhenya" again. This time he didn't answer either, then suddenly he put Kwon Taek Joo's legs on his shoulders. Zhenya leaned his body forward and stubbornly raised his knees, so that Kwon Taek Joo's body could not bend completely but was almost floating in the air, only his head was touching the bed. Blood rushed to his face with each thrust and his mind became more and more frantic. He patted Zhenya's arm to get him to let him down.

[This... uh... uh... is too deep... ah.]

Zhenya didn't mind and slowly pushed his penis all the way inside. As the guy's weight is increased, the lower part reluctantly expands and the abdomen becomes harder. Zhenya's balls pressed against Kwon Taek Joo's ass, making a clicking sound. As if that wasn't enough, he rubbed the connection and tried to dig deeper inside. Kwon Taek Joo was under pressure and out of breath, his face felt hot like he was about to explode.

[Wait, wait a minute... Out, uhm, take it out....!]

He raised his fingertips and gripped the back of Zhenya's hand. Even with her nails digging into his skin, Zhenya kept rubbing the meat into his ass. The mass of muscle that filled his belly was as ferocious as a bull churning violently inside. Kwon Taek Joo's limbs tensed up at a feeling that couldn't be ignored.

Zhenya then began to violently withdraw his fully penetrated penis. The inner part attached to it rubbed back, making Kwon Taek Joo shiver. His buttocks trembled and his hole tingled indescribably from what he had endured while unconscious.

Kwon Taek Joo closed his eyes tightly and twisted his body to reduce the stimulation. But it didn't have any special meaning, because despite Kwon Taek Joo's pitiful gesture, Zhenya still managed to pull his penis all the way out and then forcefully thrust it back in immediately. The inner wall was scratched continuously without a chance to cope.

[Ah, Ah... Ugh, it hurts...Ah, haaaa..]

Every time he was stabbed, Kwon Taek Joo's stomach throbbed and tingled deep inside. His vision was also getting blurrier at the same time and he was constantly out of breath. Even though he was not mentally alert, he still felt the feeling of the penis moving in and out with unusual clarity. After all, no matter how crazy it is, it's impossible not to know that such a huge mass of flesh is thrusting into the bottom.

The sound of air could be heard from where the skin was intertwined and something slippery, whether it was semen or gel, spilled out.

[Ugh, ugh... Ah, what's wrong, huh! Ha, why is that so...]

Kwon Taek Joo couldn't finish his words because Zhenya continued to penetrate his ass deeply. He just can't understand why. No, when and how did he meet him?

Apparently Kwon Taek Joo went to the alumni reunion. He met Yuna Hyun and were drinking together, but he didn't remember anything between them. Did he return home on his own two feet? Or did Zhenya go there personally? An uneasy thought arose.

But he didn't have time to think for even a moment, because Zhenya leaned down even more and carried his own weight. His knees were draped under Kwon Taek Joo's waist. Zhenya's arms wrapped around his wet back and held his shoulders tightly from behind. The back of his thighs pressed against Zhenya's chest and stuck together, as if his body was completely folded in half and fixed to him. The connected body parts appear intact.

"uh uh..."

An intense pain shot through Kwon Taek Joo's lower back. The pressure from above was so great that he couldn't move, he felt like he might die from being crushed by Zhenya, his hands aimlessly clinging to the bed sheet. Zhenya still paid no attention and boldly entered and exited the hole.

"Ah! Ah, Ah... uhm, take it out."

[Taek Joo...]

Zhenya lay down further and gently kissed Kwon Taek Joo's face and neck, sweetly clinging and calling his name while tearing his bottom mercilessly. It felt like everything in Kwon Taek Joo's stomach was beaten so hard that there was nothing left, his insides also spasmed endlessly and then clung tightly to Zhenya's penis. Enjoying the sweet tightness, Zhenya continuously scratched the inner wall and then suddenly slid out. As Kwon Taek Joo was trying to get used to the feeling, he pressed his bottom together and rubbed it so hard that it pushed against his balls. The unpleasant burning sensation made his fingertips and toes tingle.

Pushed to the limit, Kwon Taek Joo punched Zhenya's arm but because he had drunk a lot of alcohol, he could not muster any strength. Zhenya bit his warm earlobe and rubbed the bottom together without a gap. He rubbed so hard that part of his balls seemed to slide inside. Kwon Taek Joo struggled with excitement and pain, then patted Zhenya's shoulder again.

"Uh uh... do whatever you want...ah ugh..."

[... Taek Joo?]

Zhenya's movements stopped in surprise. He grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's hand that was continuously hitting his shoulder and looked down at his face. Kwon Taek Joo continued to mumble incomprehensible words with a tired face.

"Uh... If you want to go, go quickly, don't confuse others."

[I don't know what you're talking about. It's not you who's angry, it's me. Are you planning on being a victim?]

Zhenya sneered as if that was absurd. It was Kwon Taek Joo who lied to him. It felt like a betrayal of Zhenya's long sincere wait for him. I went to a class reunion and then like this.

But Kwon Taek Joo showed absolutely no signs of apology, on the contrary, he was even colder. Perhaps because he was drunk, old emotions came rushing back, thoughts he had tried to suppress until now exploded when his reason weakened. Kwon Taek Joo gasped with shaking shoulders then reached out to pinch Zhenya's cheek. His eyes were filled with anger as he looked at the stupid man.

[Hey, Taek Joo. Why were you drunk there...]

[Betrothal?]

A completely unpredictable word popped out, Kwon Taek Joo's assertion seemed to be more than just because the two were making intense love.

[No way, you bastard.]

[...Ha? Because of that, are you like this?]

[No matter what you say, I can't give up. I can't do anything even if you're alone.]

Zhenya didn't know exactly what Kwon Taek Joo wanted to say. He was just surprised that the complaint had no precise subject or object. However, he was drunk and spoke his mind. He's straightforward and sharp in everything, but Kwon Taek Joo is very clumsy when it comes to expressing his true feelings, and he doesn't seem to mind the engagement either.

Unexpectedly, Kwon Taek Joo's resolute tone suddenly became weak.

[Can you look at me for a moment? Even...]

The grumbles completely subsided. The hand that was pulling Zhenya's cheek also fell helplessly. He suddenly woke up, behaved violently and then fell back asleep. A warm breath escaped from Kwon Taek Joo's slightly parted lips.

[It's hard to guess.]

Zhenya quietly pressed his lips to Kwon Taek Joo's cheeks and hot lips. Static electricity gently increased. Zhenya kissed him affectionately and thrust hard again where he left off.

[For now, just sleep well.]

The two figures entwined as one and never left each other after that.

—

Kwon Taek Joo's finger twitched slightly when he woke up. A languid sigh and a small moan came out at the same time. His whole body ached everywhere. His mind was still fuzzy. Kwon Taek Joo buried his head in the blanket and hesitated a little more, but a series of continuous shaking sounds prevented rest.

He couldn't even open his eyes and just fumbled on the bed. Even with just that much movement, the muscles throughout his body were still screaming. Kwon Taek Joo groaned while looking for his still noisy phone. The phone came to his hand after a while of groping.

Kwon Taek Joo raised his eyebrows in frustration. After struggling for a while, he finally opened the security lock. He was wondering what the alarm was when the SNS message seemed to explode on the phone screen. It seemed like there were about 300 unread messages sent, mostly from group chats with classmates.

It seems Yoon Jong Woo sent 50 of them. The number of missed calls alone exceeded 100. About 20 of them were from Yoon Jong Woo, his mother, and Yuna Hyun, and the remaining calls were marked as 'Zhenya'.

"...What is this"

Kwon Taek Joo checks messages from Yoon Jong Woo. He reported the situation almost every 10 minutes after Kwon Taek Joo left. Shortly after midnight, his contact became frequent.

"Senior, are you still far away? Yevgeny has discovered that the senior is lying ㅠㅠ His expression is not very good Please pick up the phone ㅠㅠ"

Kwon Taek Joo could feel Yoon Jong Woo's sense of urgency in every word. In the last message, it was written 'Mr. Yevgeny suddenly disappeared'. Right at that moment, Kwon Taek Joo's phone caught fire.

Then entering the group chat of old friends, the first thing he saw was what the Russian ambassador had said. Kwon Taek Joo froze. Immediately, his head cleared and his eyes opened wide. He went back to the top and read each message piled up.

The classmates who stayed until the end were talking about Zhenya's appearance. It's the story of a drunk Kwon Taek Joo about to be taken home in a taxi when a Bugatti appears and a gorgeous foreigner gets out to take him away. Someone even found Zhenya's official profile and posted it. The news below is that for a while, it seemed like the group was fighting fiercely to see whether Kwon Taek Joo's job was as a diplomat or a bodyguard. Some people also wondered why Zhenya was involved in a private schedule when it was a business relationship.

With that alone, Kwon Taek Joo had a general grasp of the situation. He groaned and scratched his head. He shouldn't have drank too much.

'That person is the one who defeated the stubborn Kwon Taek Joo.'

After talking with Yuna Hyun, he felt more complicated. Kwon Taek Joo kept thinking about Zhenya and thinking about the many things he had experienced recently, then he felt his mood become vague. The two of them had only met for a year, and it wasn't like they had promised each other the rest of their lives. Furthermore, Zhenya is not interested in meeting other people even though he is engaged. He used to be such a person. It's not that you don't know. On the contrary, Kwon Taek Joo should feel relieved because that is also what he wanted. But in reality it is not like that. He thoughtlessly enjoyed being with the monster, and he felt disgusted with himself.

"Bad guy."

Kwon Taek Joo cursed and stood up only to hug his back and groan. He couldn't put enough force into his spine to the point where he wondered if the spinal joint would dislocate, because even with the slightest movement it creaked and made him shiver.

Every time he woke up, Kwon Taek Joo remembers that Zhenya was still on top of him. Even when Kwon Taek Joo collapsed and fell asleep, he always did what he wanted, but yesterday seemed more serious.

He staggered out of the bedroom. Looking at the mirror hanging on the wall on the way, he was no different from a corpse. His body's condition was miserable, it seemed faster to find a place without tooth marks, there were many places where blood had gathered into a dark blue color from being bitten and sucked. His lips were swollen as if they were about to explode and his eyes were dull. Even when he sat still and accidentally touched his nipple, it stung and he moaned unconsciously.

“Ah..”

Zhenya usually bites and sucks like a dog, but when he's angry, Zhenya often bites as if he's really determined. At times like that, he didn't know if he was making love or being sucked blood out of him.

"This damn bastard, where did he go?"

Kwon Taek Joo looked around. For some reason, the house seemed empty. He opened the quiet bathroom door and went out onto the terrace. Zhenya was nowhere to be seen. He's not the type of person who goes to work on weekdays, but today is clearly Sunday. There was no way he would go see his mother, let alone the embassy, and leave Kwon Taek Joo at home. Did Zhenya go to the convenience store alone again?

He decided to take a shower first. Just the water pouring into his body made his skin tingle inside. No matter how many times he has experienced it, Kwon Taek Joo has never gotten used to that feeling.

He got out of the bathroom later than usual. It's still cold in the house. Kwon Taek Joo picked up the phone to try calling Zhenya. A vibrating sound rang out at the right moment, but it was not a call from Zhenya. Three letters appeared on the screen, 'Yuna Hyun'. If he had met Zhenya, he would have been quite surprised. He had to check to see what the situation was like. Kwon Taek Joo touched the call button.

"uh."

- Kwon Taek Joo, are you still alive?

"If you're dead, how can you answer that?"

- Your voice doesn't sound right? It seems like being drunk is no joke, right?

"Did you call to check on that?"

Just then, Kwon Taek Joo felt a presence outside the door. He raised his head and looked out into the hallway leading to the front door. Not long after, his eyes met Zhenya's as he entered. The guy didn't

say anything but just stared at Kwon Taek Joo and then walked into the kitchen. A cold air enveloped me. Zhenya seemed angry again.

- No. I will leave the country after the ceremony. It will probably be difficult to see you again before then so I will send you a wedding invitation, so remember to bring your beautiful lover, okay?

"Oh...."

Kwon Taek Joo glanced at Zhenya. He was arranging the newly purchased things while looking across at Kwon Taek Joo with a very dissatisfied expression.

"I'll consider it, if I'm not busy with work at that time."

-This is the wedding of the century for your only friend. You seem to be very popular with your superiors, is that okay?

"What are you talking about again?"

-That's right. What superior would personally pick up a drunk subordinate and also call continuously late at night, even on weekends.

"No, it's just... There's urgent business at the embassy. Because I missed important documents and didn't post them..."

Kwon Taek Joo awkwardly made an excuse. He didn't even know what he was talking about and awkwardly shook his head slowly. He can't remember important details so now it's hard.

Zhenya witnessed those strange actions, frowned and crossed his arms.

- It's not like you have something to do with that superior, right?

"There's nothing wrong with that! Are you still sober?"

- No, because I found that man's eyes very unusual. If you don't have that mindset then be careful.

"Ya, if you say strange things then hang up."

- You are so rigid. Even if it's not you, maybe your superior is like that so remember what I said.

"Stop talking nonsense. Go well."

-Don't forget to come to my wedding.

He hung up after saying everything he wanted to say. The surrounding quickly became quiet. Kwon Taek Joo took the phone away from his ear and looked at Zhenya. The guy withdrew his gaze and focused on arranging the furniture. Anyway, I told Zhenya to stop collecting ramen, but he still bought it and brought it back.

Kwon Taek Joo walked around because he felt something was wrong. Anyway, Zhenya's lie was true so he wanted to justify or apologize.

[Hey, yesterday...]

[You made me very happy.]

[No, that is...]

[Are you happy? To the point of completely forgetting you like that.]

[I'm just going to let them know I'm still alive for a bit and then come back.]

[So you're always drunk? You also did not receive calls. Ah, or did you intentionally not pick up the phone?]

Zhenya repeated sarcastically. Why did you drink so much? Kwon Taek Joo felt a bit resentful but that's another story, at first glance, deceiving Zhenya was wrong.

[I promised to attend so I couldn't not come. It's been 10 years so I want to see everyone again once.]

[Who do you miss so much? Was that girl just talking on the phone?]

[What are you imagining? It's not like that, this kid]

[If that's not the case, why do you have to lie?]

[Because you will have a strange misunderstanding like now...]

Zhenya shook his head as if he didn't want to hear any more while Kwon Taek Joo actively explained. He even acted like he didn't need to explain every detail.

[Taek Joo. Don't be confused. I am free only because you did so, that you let me do what I want, right now.]

People don't change easily, and Zhenya is still just as threatening. He pretended to be extremely concerned about what they should have between lovers. Zhenya is more effortful, patient and accommodating than ever, and threatening in such an obvious manner.

[That means I'm willing to accept your complaints even if you try to deceive me.]

The words that followed were, in a way, a coaxing word for Kwon Taek Joo.

[If you want to know where I am, who I'm meeting, what I'm doing, if you're obsessed and want to tie me down, then go ahead.]

[...What?]

[Whether it's engagement or marriage, if you don't like it, why don't you say it directly? At least then I'll still find you cute.]

[What nonsense are you talking about all of a sudden?]

[You said not to do that, that you would kill me if I ran away or disappeared from your sight, right?]

[I'll kill you?]

[You threaten me in all kinds of languages.]

Kwon Taek Joo's ears perked up. His heart started beating fast. What nonsense are you doing? His eyes wandered astray, glancing around. The heat spread to the back of his neck immediately. It was a rare sign of confusion from Kwon Taek Joo.

Zhenya wondered if that was all he wanted to say, then in a slow tone, he revealed more of his shameful actions last night.

[I cried all night and asked you to look towards me.]

[Oh, Funny! No way.]

[No, you did, Taek Joo.]

Zhenya affirmed firmly and then step by step approached Kwon Taek Joo. He didn't want to see the face that appeared in his memory, and he couldn't even look into Zhenya's staring eyes.

When Kwon Taek Joo pushed Zhenya to avoid that gaze, Zhenya wrapped his arms around his waist and pulled him back. He grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's chin and turned Kwon Taek Joo's head forward. Their eyes met so close that their noses touched each other. Zhenya looked as if licking Kwon Taek Joo's eyes.

[Don't worry anymore. I will never disappear. I will no longer be by your side when you are dead.] Both arms holding Kwon Taek Joo tightened. It hurt, but he felt the heaviness in his heart and seemed to be relieved.

[So unless you want me to kill you with my own hands, don't think about it anymore.]

Even a romantic confession feels so cold. Actually, Kwon Taek Joo himself is no better. He laughed because it was so silly. Zhenya's face turned displeased, thinking he was laughing. Kwon Taek Joo pulled Zhenya's ears to kiss those lips. The guy's dissatisfied face suddenly relaxed. As their lips continuously touched each other, Zhenya's transparent eyes were filled with surprise. If Kwon Taek Joo himself actively shows closeness, Zhenya always has such a pure reaction. So to others, he is a monster, but in Kwon Taek Joo's eyes, Zhenya is an angel.

[um....]

Kwon Taek Joo doesn't know if he's okay? Aren't you lonely when you're next to me? Have you ever been tired?

As I was about to ask, the phone rang, but it wasn't from Kwon Taek Joo's phone. He tilted his chin toward the phone, which kept ringing, but Zhenya sat down at the table and patiently waited for the next loving touches from Kwon Taek Joo. The guy didn't even intend to answer the phone.

With no other choice, Kwon Taek Joo checked his phone. An unfamiliar number appeared on the screen, and it wasn't a domestic call either. While he was still hesitant to answer, the call was disconnected.

Zhenya didn't care at all and just stuck his lips to Kwon Taek Joo's neck and whispered [Taek Joo]. He tilted his head and hugged Zhenya's head. Kwon Taek Joo ran his long fingers through his soft ivory hair and gently stroked his scalp. Zhenya inhaled deeper. The guy who had been rubbing his straight nose against Kwon Taek Joo's neck and ears to enjoy the body smell, suddenly stuck his tongue up his protruding neck. Sensitive places became wet and Kwon Taek Joo's emotions began to change. He rubbed Zhenya's ears, stroking and comforting it.

At that moment, the vibrating sound rang out again. Still the same number. He didn't know who it was, but it seemed they had urgent business to contact. Kwon Taek Joo was about to press the button to receive the call but Zhenya suddenly bit his lip. It was like a silent protest for him not to accept that call. Kwon Taek Joo tilted his head and smiled, and while covering the approaching Zhenya's mouth, he answered the phone.

"Hello?"

- Huh? Who is that?

The person who suddenly asked was a young woman who spoke Russian. Kwon Taek Joo felt a deep sense of deja vu. He was surprised and wondered if the other person felt the same way.

-Taek Joo?

The voice was definitely Olga's.

5.20 Side Story

[Taek Joo! Long time no see.]

Olga smiled brightly and opened the door. Zhenya passed her and went inside first. Olga did not even pay attention to her brother.

[When did you come?]

[Last night. That guy didn't say anything?]

[No problem.]

[Knew it. You know, last night he threw me here and left me alone, not bothering to answer all the phone calls.]

Olga grumbled continuously. Kwon Taek Joo has nothing to say. He firmly believes that the reason Zhenya left Olga alone was to personally pick up Kwon Taek Joo. After that the two made love from dawn until sunrise, so there was no time to hear news from Olga.

Kwon Taek Joo coughed and changed the subject.

[Why did you suddenly come here?]

[Why? After all, We are blood relatives, so I came to see how he is living alone in a far away country.]

[He's not a child, is he? Why do you have no conscience like that? If I let him come here, I shouldn't have worried about him but about this country.]

[That's what I mean. Did you understand differently? Everyone at home is worried that that person will cause trouble again and cause diplomatic friction. Nothing special has happened yet, right?]

Sure enough, even though they knew it was so, they still sent him away, clearly on purpose. At this point, shamelessness seems to run in the family.

[It was to meet Taek Joo and see what kind of country Korea is.]

It seems that the real purpose is the latter.

Kwon Taek Joo entered the mansion. The first thing that caught his eye were the bags placed haphazardly on the living room floor. There are three of them in the largest size. He didn't know how many days Olga intended to stay. Kwon Taek Joo felt like he just had another problem.

[Have you had lunch yet?]

[I'm waiting.]

[Have you already ordered?]

[Yes.]

[How did you call?]

[Just order the food, is there any other way?]

Olga looked as if she didn't know why Kwon Taek Joo asked her that question. Did Zhenya master in one day what he barely learned after living in Korea for a year? Or is he already surprisingly fluent in Korean?

[First, sit down. Would you like some fruit?]

Olga opened the large bag from the convenience store and took out the fruit. There are oranges, melons, pineapples and grapes. She bought a lot of things when she was alone. There are three or four more bags like that. Convenience stores don't have anything else to buy, but the two brothers' shopping trips are very similar.

[Because Korea is a warm country, I thought the fruit would taste better, but apparently that's not the case.]

[Because I bought it at a convenience store, that's why. No matter what, you should go directly to the traditional market to buy fruit.]

[Really? Then let's go there too.]

What do you mean 'We're going there too'? The implications are strange. Before being unnecessarily misunderstood and disappointed, Kwon Taek Joo clearly stated his point of view.

[I didn’t mean I'll go with you. I don't have time to go with you.]

[Are you pretending to be busy? It is said that yesterday you also met friends and drank alcohol. I'm playing like this now.]

[Yesterday and today are weekends.]

[I know. I didn't tell you to use work time to ao out. I heard that Korean civil servants leave work at 6pm? It is said that hours can be adjusted flexibly if you do freelance work like Taek Joo.]

Who taught her those things? At least not Zhenya. Proof of this is the way he's been looking at his sister with his arms crossed all this time.

[Actually, when I came here, I didn't have any big expectations because Korea is a small country. Looking at the map, it looks like a bean, and it's divided in half. But it has developed a lot, hasn't it? Sanitary conditions and services are good, people are refined, roads seem more congested than in Moscow.]

[Whoever sees it will know it is a giant. Are you arrogant about your country or is your personality like that?]

[Because it's really small? Anyway, it's great because it doesn't look like a country at war.]

[It's still the same as before. Everyone here is in a constant state of military tension.]

[Um. It's really difficult. Just wipe out the other side, why are you guys so slow?]

Olga shrugged indifferently. Compared to Zhenya, she seems normal, but she still occasionally reminds Kwon Taek Joo that she is a member of the Bogdanov family.

[Ah, the food is also delicious. As soon as I arrived, I ate my fill of Korean BBQ.I want to visit ancient palaces abroad at least once. I heard they open them at night too, so I went there yesterday.]

Olga wanted to make the most of her short time. On one hand, Kwon Taek Joo wondered who was with her. There was no way Zhenya would do such a kind thing, because he was continuing to protest silently towards Olga.

[Oh, I took pictures too. Do you want to see it?]

Olga ignored Zhenya's gaze and took out her phone. There were about 100 photos taken in the palace. In Kwon Taek Joo's eyes, the setting, composition, and characters show that these are definitely not selfies, or did she hire a photographer? He wondered who would work so hard, taking photos for others, if not for work.

While Kwon Taek Joo was listening to this and that from Olga, the intercom system suddenly rang. "Here we are," Olga said and jumped up from her seat. Looks like the pre-ordered lunch has arrived. Kwon Taek Joo didn't suspect anything and followed her.

The person who opened the door and walked in was none other than Yoon Jong Woo. He smiled and greeted me like an idiot, but as soon as he met Kwon Taek Joo, he was stunned.

"Wait, senior. Are you here too?"

"What are you doing here?"

"Ah, that...

Yoon Jong Woo rolled his eyes looking for an excuse. Just in time, Olga walked out.

「Come in. What dish did you recommend yesterday?」

「Ah. here. I didn't know what you wanted, so I bought all the famous things here.」

「Wow, you’re so kind. Come in.」

Olga happily invited Yoon Jong Woo into the house. Yoon Jong Woo looked around the mansion strangely and followed Olga to the table and immediately flinched when he saw Zhenya sitting there.

「Haha, Yevgeny-shi is also here...

He laughed, but his voice sank.

The dish Yoon Jong Woo bought is kimbap, famous for its special ingredients such as cucumber and eggs, rolled in grilled seaweed leaves, dipped in mustard sauce.

"Yoon Jong Woo."

"..Yes?"

"Explain. How do you two know each other?"

"We have become friends. Yesterday, she said it was her first time coming to Korea, so I took her out."

At this point, all the pieces of the puzzle have been put together. Kwon Taek Joo understood that Olga ate Korean BBQ as soon as she arrived, went to see the palace at night, and even took hundreds of photos. When he entrusted Zhenya to Yoon Jong Woo, he was worried about how the two would spend their time, but it seemed like that was overblown. Seeing Yoon Jong Woo always smiling at Olga, the feeling of guilt towards him suddenly disappeared.

"I told you to be friends with that bastard, I didn't tell you to be friends with his sister."

As if there was nothing left to say, Yoon Jong Woo curled his lips and swallowed. However, Zhenya, who was sitting next to him, gently raised his chin and puffed out his chest with an arrogant expression.

(He is definitely now fluent in Korean, look at him acting like he was complimented)

Seeing that, Yoon Jong Woo became restless and looked at Kwon Taek Joo. He seemed to know something.

"Yes"

“Yes?”

"Why can't you look me in the eyes?"

"I.. I, when?"

"What, right now?"

"Ah, don't tease me!"

"Do you know why that bastard is like that?”

"Yes? I don't know!"

"You know that"

"I said I don't know!"

"You know."

"...Ah, Yes. I'm close to Yevgeny-sshi, ask him."

"If I can ask, why should I say anything? It's so frustrating..."

「Wow! This is really delicious. You two should try it too..」

After arguing for a while, Olga suddenly invited the two of them to eat gimbap. Kwon Taek Joo stuffed a few pieces of gimbap into his mouth and chewed voraciously, while chewing while staring at Yoon Jong Woo. Yoon Jong Woo just looked down with his cheeks moving, occasionally nodding eagerly to Olga's questions.

How long has it been? The silent phone suddenly rang. It was a phone call from Kwon Taek Joo's mother. He pressed the button to receive the call.

"Yes, mother. I'm planning to go home now. Do you need to buy anything?”

His mother said she was preparing dinner and asked Kwon Taek Joo if he wanted anything to eat. He couldn't get over his hangover and craved cold soup. While Kwon Taek Joo was still thinking about a suitable menu, Yoon Jong Woo suddenly interrupted.

"Mom, how are you? I'm Jong Woo."

-Oh, Jong Woo? Are you with Taek Joo?

"...Yes, hm...”

Kwon Taek Joo pushed Yoon Jong Woo, who was stuck on his phone. Only at times like this is he friendly and bothers him. His mother was happy to hear his voice after a long time.

- Don't do that, Jong Woo should come here too. Mom will cook for everyone to eat together.

"No, Mom. Today is the weekend. He also wants to rest, but doesn't want to go to his superior's house."

"No mom! I'm free today!"

He didn't know how to pay attention and raised his voice. Kwon Taek Joo tried to wink and silently warn, but to no avail. Even his mother heard Yoon Jong Woo's voice.

-Right. Be sure to bring him here. Mom will cook the rib stew that Jong Woo likes.

"Thanks Mom. See you soon!"

-Okay, see you soon. Oh, if the ambassador has time, please invite him. Mom talked on the phone earlier but I don't know if he understood clearly.

Ah. A sigh came from deep inside. I wonder when his mother called Zhenya. Was it when Kwon Taek Joo was still lying on his bed? Isn't that crazy guy saying obscene things that shouldn't be said again? Kwon Taek Joo glanced at Zhenya. His face looked back innocently as if asking why Kwon Taek Joo looked like that. He didn't know why they were diligently calling each other when they couldn't even understand what the other person was saying.

Kwon Taek Joo sighed and said, "I know."

[Who called?]

Olga's voice reminded Kwon Taek Joo of her presence as soon as he finished talking on the phone. [Whose voice is so different?],she showed intense curiosity.

Ah, there's also her here.

Kwon Taek Joo stared at Zhenya again. The guy didn't seem to care much. It seemed like the person who brought his sister into the mansion he had only visited a few times wouldn't care what she would do today. Kwon Taek Joo wants to leave everything behind and go home alone. But he couldn't because he had agreed to take them home and his mother would prepare suitable food according to the number of people. You also can't leave someone who comes from far away just because she's annoying.

Kwon Taek Joo suddenly felt tired. He sighed as if the ground was about to collapse.

—

A shopping bag suddenly flew in. Kwon Taek Joo caught it, if he had been a little slower it would have flown into him. Not knowing how much he had bought, he stopped Olga with a tired look.

[Ya, let's go home.]

God, I was invited anyway. How could I come empty handed? People should be ashamed.]

[I wasn't invited, I just accidentally barged in.]

「That's beautiful. Please show me that one too.」

Just as she was getting to the point, Olga ignored her and turned to engrossed in shopping. Kwon Taek Joo understood why Zhenya said that if he was going to go with 'that' he would go first.

(He is talking about Olga as ‘that’)

It took two hours just to decide what clothes and accessories to wear. Kwon Taek Joo waited an hour and a half at the hair and makeup salon. He didn't think she was coming to a meal but to some kind of a party.

Olga went around many famous shops. Yoon Jong Woo calls himself a porter and has already filled all ten fingers with things. If this keeps up, he will probably carry things with his mouth.

[Don't buy anymore, let's go. There's no place for this.]

[Hmm, no brand at all. Inventory is also gone.]

Olga does not listen to what others say and only complains unreasonably. Noble bastards. Kwon Taek Joo tensed up and muttered to himself. Yoon Jong Woo who was walking next to him suddenly pulled away, saying, "It sounded more like a compliment than a curse." The kid is so slow to understand.

"hmm... since I don't know what he will like. give me this, this and this too."

In the end, Olga tried to buy all the scarves of different colors. Kwon Taek Joo couldn't bear to watch anymore so he grabbed the card she held out.

"Enough. Thank you for these items."

[No, what's wrong... I haven't seen the shoes yet.]

Olga sadly looked back at the scarf she

hadn't bought it yet. If she was going to buy

shoes, Kwon Taek Joo wouldn't be able to

have dinner. He refused the request for alcohol and went home.

When we arrived at the basement parking lot, Zhenya's Bugatti was already parked there. Today they occupied all 3 parking spaces. Olga recognized her brother's car and angrily clicked her tongue.

[I can't touch it, but I can put an electric saw on the parking lot, and if it crosses the line, cut it off immediately. If that's the case then that person can't treat me like that]

That's how you prove that you are a member of the Bogdanov family. Luckily, Yoon Jong Woo doesn't know Russian.

Kwon Taek Joo could barely get into the elevator because he had too much luggage. He unlocked the door with his little finger and opened the front door with difficulty. Olga exclaimed.

[Is this Taek Joo's house? I expected that but it's really small.]

The modest house is 48 pyeong.

(158 square meters)

[It's just that my house is unnecessarily big.]

While Kwon Taek Joo grumbled, his mother opened the main door and walked out. She was cooking and wearing a lace apron. It seems completely new. He hadn't even seen the house dress worn under it. If only Yoon Jong Woo had been brought, his mother wouldn't have dressed like that.

Olga quickly walked over and gave his mother the bouquet of flowers she had bought. It was so big that she was buried in the flowers.

[Hello ma'am. Nice to meet you. Thank you for the invitation.]

"Please come in. Phew. I'm very grateful for coming, but why is this? Taek Joo, is this the ambassador's sister? She is as beautiful as a fairy."

His mother was delighted and her eyes sparkled. To Zhenya, he is an angel, but to Olga, she is a fairy. Would she still think the same when she knew how they were born and raised in the family?

Yoon Jong Woo was almost crushed in a pile of furniture, sticking his head out.

"Mom, I'm coming too."

"Hey, Jong Woo should come in quickly too. Long time no see? Why has it been so difficult to meet you lately? If you want to eat, come anytime. My face is only half sunken"

"I always wanted to come. If no one notices then..”

The whispers were so low that no one could hear them. Even with that, he immediately shut his mouth under Kwon Taek Joo's staring eyes.

"Let's go in. The ambassador has been waiting for a long time."

Kwon Taek Joo followed his excited mother into the living room. Zhenya was sitting at the table enjoying a refreshing drink as usual. His mother must have been very busy preparing the meal, but she still carefully cut the pear for him. Sometimes it seemed that his mother valued Zhenya more than her son.

[You returned really quickly.]

Zhenya said as he chewed a pear. Kwon Taek Joo looked at that calm face and gritted his teeth.

[If you know her that much, you should have told me, you brat.]

[I tried it.]

[I have to try harder, be more determined to prevent it.]

[You're strangely angry again.]

Zhenya was surprised and then stuck his fork into a piece of pear. Kwon Taek Joo grabbed the guy's hand and bit the pear and ate it. The pear is cut into bite-sized pieces, delicious and crispy, cooling the whole mouth. Energy was lost from the long wait and shopping seemed to surge again. "It's delicious," Kwon Taek Joo had just finished speaking when Zhenya put the remaining pear on the fork into his mouth. It seems that he enjoys interesting jokes more than emotional actions. Whatever, It's okay to be cute.

Kwon Taek Joo was enjoying the pleasant atmosphere and eating what Zhenya gave him when his mother passed by and hit him on the back.

"What's wrong with you? Why do you keep taking the ambassador's food?"

"It's not taking, it's 'giving'..."

"Don't just stand there, help mom clear the table"

"...I'm planning to do it too."

It's unfair, but it's true that Kwon Taek Joo ate the pear. He stood up and cleared the table.

Together with Yoon Jong Woo, he placed the spoon, scooped the rice and diligently carried the food his mother had prepared. Kwon Taek Joo asked for a simple meal but the table was quickly full.

Meanwhile, Olga looked around the house alone. When she found young Kwon Taek Joo in a photo frame his mother displayed, she giggled and then didn't hesitate to point. Kwon Taek Joo's mother saw her and complimented her that she seemed to have a very cheerful personality.

The food has been served and is ready for the table for 6 people. Yeonpo soup is boiling on the stove. Every time his mother had a meal with Zhenya, he always put a clear stew containing fish or seafood on the table. That's why Zhenya likes Russian style fish soup called "Uha"

"Come on, even though I didn't prepare much, please eat a lot."

"Wow. When did Mom prepare all this? Today is the Mid-Autumn Festival."

Yoon Jong Woo made a fuss. Olga was busy looking at the colorful dishes with wide eyes. It's not wrong because none of the dishes are roughly made. The pancakes are decorated with chili and wormwood, and the fish dishes have colorful fried eggs. Even the chestnuts, radishes and carrots added to the rib stew are cut into round shapes.

"I will eat well." Kwon Taek Joo said and prepared to drink. Suddenly, his mother stood up from the chair. It seems like something was missed. She quickly turned around and placed a fork in front of Zhenya. There is only one fruit fork in the house. Kwon Taek Joo and his brother have been using chopsticks since they were children because they did not like Western food. The fork seems completely new. Kwon Taek Joo wondered if his mother had specially bought it. Zhenya silently smiled. His mother also smiled happily.

Yoon Jong Woo and Olga watched the situation strangely. Even Kwon Taek Joo was not used to this scene, so the two of them must have been very surprised.

His mother introduced braised short ribs to Olga and said "Oh"

"I wonder what you were thinking. He didn't think about the fact that the ambassador's sister probably wasn't used to using chopsticks either. What should I do?"

Kwon Taek Joo's mother was confused as if she had made a big mistake. Olga observantly looked at the situation and dismissed her worries.

[Ah, you can do it like this.]

Olga confidently picked up a piece of ribs with two chopsticks. But she couldn't put it in her bowl. The fatty meat slid along the chopsticks, fell onto the table, fell to the ground and rolled around. Every time that happens, Yoon Jong Woo and his mother feel regretful. Zhenya, on the other hand, only laughed at his sister's fierce trial and failure. Kwon Taek Joo tapped Zhenya's hand.

[This. Give me the fork.]

[Why me?]

[How does she eat like that?]

[It's none of your business.]

[If you leave it like that, my mother will go buy a fork right away. Let's not cause each other any more trouble.]

"Hmm?" Kwon Taek Joo said as he put the meatballs on Zhenya's rice. It was an action without any particular thought but a strange silence passed. When he raised his head, everyone was looking at Kwon Taek Joo. Zhenya also stared at the round meatball placed on his rice as if something strange had happened.

[What's wrong?]

[No, then I'll use this.]

Olga gave a meaningful smile and took the fork. His mother also said with a satisfied face to eat quickly.

During meals, Zhenya only picks side dishes that he can eat. The guy who always talks a lot about this and that is strangely quiet today. Kwon Taek Joo quietly placed the stir-fried anchovies with red pepper sauce on top of the rice because he thought it would be fine for him. The guy quickly blushed and drank water, but he also didn't argue about whether Kwon Taek Joo did it on purpose like usual.

Olga ate the new dishes little by little. Unlike Zhenya, she can easily eat spicy dishes. Yoon Jong Woo occasionally explained the main ingredients, flavor substitutions, and nutritional content of the dish. At the dining table, Korean, Russian and English are naturally mixed.

[Ah!]

Olga spotted something during the meal and pointed at it. That's kimchi. She told curious people how she had planned to throw away the kimchi when she first saw it because she thought it was spoiled. The burst of laughter made everyone in a happy mood. Although communication languages are different, it is not difficult to share moments like this.

The mother looked at the four of them with satisfaction, constantly picking up food and encouraging them to eat more.

"I wonder how long it's been since Mom did something like this."

"Just call me, I can come every day, mom."

Yoon Jong Woo scooped up more rice while swaying. The mother was happy and poured more soup for him.

"I won't refuse."

Yoon Jong Woo who was responding happily was suddenly taken aback, because besides Kwon Taek Joo who was always keeping an eye on him, even Zhenya was looking at him coldly. Did he say something wrong? Even so, there was no way Zhenya, who didn't know Korean, would understand.

After placing the bowl of soup in front of Yoon Jong Woo, the mother asked if Zhenya wanted more. The guy's sharp eyes then gradually calmed down. Yoon Jong Woo was silent and speechless.

"Those are not empty words, so please come often. Mom is also not good at eating alone, so you are always welcome. It's okay if Taek Joo doesn't know. Huh?"

"Yes, mother."

"The same goes for the Ambassador. Please visit often even after your term ends."

The mother soon expressed her regret and repeatedly asked. Kwon Taek Joo's hand that was engrossed in the meal suddenly stopped.

Typically, an ambassador's term is about

two years. By that standard, it's less than a year away. Kwon Taek Joo never thought about what would happen after that. One year from now, will Zhenya still be here, next to Kwon Taek Joo, like now? Does he ever want to return to his hometown?

[Don't worry anymore. I will never disappear. I won't be by your side when you're dead.]

(I think this is a flashback from what Zhenya said)

Kwon Taek Joo couldn't be more certain but strangely he didn't feel relieved. Once again, he had a lot on his mind.

5.21 Side Story

Uninvited guests even drink tea after the meal before getting up. The time was almost midnight. Kwon Taek Joo's mother usually goes to bed early, today she walked out the front door to see everyone off.

"Children, be careful and come again. Jong Woo, please be careful when driving at night."

"Yes. I ate well and played happily. Thanks Mom."

Everyone said goodbye and greeted each other again. Olga took her hand and said she hoped they would see each other again soon. Kwon Taek Joo pulled her out of his mother's arms and pushed her into the elevator. The mother followed and gently stroked her back like a child. Finally, Everyone entered the elevator.

Olga and Yoon Jong Woo are busy talking to each other. Most of the time, Yoon Jong Woo explained what Olga was curious about. It seemed this time he was talking about the electronic display board installed in the elevator.

Keeping his eyes fixed on the dashboard, Kwon Taek Joo felt a stare staring at his back but it was hard to react anyway. He hesitated to show off his relationship with Zhenya in front of Yoon Jong Woo and Olga, even though she seemed to understand the situation. The distance between him and Zhenya is currently less than a beat, as if they could touch each other at any moment, making him feel even more awkward. The time to get to the parking lot suddenly took longer than ever.

Yoon Jona Woo's car appeared first as it exited the elevator. He is the most individualistic person in the world and is always the first to leave whenever he attends a dinner party, but today Yoon Jong Woo lingered and continued to talk.

「Today was fun. Thanks to Olga, I also had a delicious dinner.」

"What are you savina? It's because of you that she came here."

「」

Yoon Jong Woo ruined his livelihood because of flirting, he enthusiastically saved the situation.

"Olga said she wanted to try kimbap first, otherwise I wouldn't have had anything to come to the mansion and wouldn't have been able to receive my mother's invitation."

"That's so brave. If so, please thank me. If my mother hadn't given birth to me, would you have known her?"

"Is that true?"

"You're such an eyesore, just go away."

Kwon Taek Joo pretended to kick Yoon Jong Woo's butt, he reluctantly climbed into the driver's seat and sincerely greeted Olga.

「Olga, goodbye.」

Olga smiled brightly and waved her hand. It took a long time just for Yoon Jong Woo to find the door handle in the car. If he were born in the Joseon Dynasty, he would definitely be fascinated by the nine-tailed fox.

[See you tomorrow, Teak Joo]

Kwon Taek Joo was clicking his tongue in dissatisfaction as he looked at his unpleasant junior when Olga spoke up. The sentence was so absurd that for a moment he thought he had heard it wrong.

[Hey, why don't we meet tomorrow? I still have to work.]

Kwon Taek Joo raised his voice to refuse. but Olga pretended not to hear and got into the Bugatti. Are they made up of a gene that doesn't exist in humans? The blood and pus are truly unmistakable, truly terrifying.

Suddenly he looked at Zhenya but he was also staring at the Bugatti. It seems that Kwon Taek Joo is not the only one dissatisfied with the current situation.

[Don't worry, Teak Joo. I will chase it back tonight.]

Zhenya shows undisguised hostility towards his sister. It didn't seem like an empty word, so Kwon Taek Joo had to speak up to stop him.

Zhenya shows undisguised hostility towards his sister. It didn't seem like an empty word, so Kwon Taek Joo had to speak up to stop him.

[Isn't it already late... She came here anyway because she was worried about you.]

Who?]

[...Could it be that she only intended to come here to have fun?]

Kwon Taek Joo himself was also uncertain when protecting Olga. Zhenya smirked. Kwon Taek Joo pointed his chin at the Bugatti.

[Scat]

[Let's go?]

Zhenya asked a question while repeating what the other person had just said in a strange tone. Kwon Taek Joo frowned because he thought he was being teased.

[What's wrong?]

[Is that your way of telling me to go away?]

What did Kwon Taek Joo do? His skepticism doubled because of the vague way of speaking of someone who avoided the focus.

[Go quickly. I’m tired.]

Kwon Taek Joo urged with an annoyed tone. However, after staring at Kwon Taek Joo for a while, Zhenya suddenly reached out his hand. He tilted his head to avoid the man's arm trying to grab his chin. He also gently pushed his arm away.

[...There's someone else.]

[Not at all.

Kwon Taek Joo grimaced and turned away. When he reached the elevator door, the Bugatti had also started. Then two cars exited the basement parking lot in parallel. Kwon Taek Joo watched until the lights turned off completely and then entered the elevator.

Entering the house, his mother was cleaning the kitchen. Although Kwon Taek Joo washed the dishes first, there was still a lot to do, starting with cleaning up the dishes. She forced him to rest and instead cleaned up after himself.

Kwon Taek Joo returned to his room after taking a shower after midnight. He threw himself onto the bed without hesitation, fatigue setting in even though he hadn't had to do anything strenuous all day. It seemed like he had so much to do over the weekend that the boredom of the past time had disappeared. Kwon Taek Joo even felt like he was enjoying relaxation after a long time.

It's a pity that he wasn't able to spend proper time with Zhenya during the vacation. Thinking back now, Kwon Taek Joo even felt strangely worried, wondering if an emergency had happened and he would be summoned by work again. Did Zhenya get home safely? Or should I try calling? Right at the moment Kwon Taek Joo was thinking and picked up the phone, a vibrating sound rang out at the same time.

"Open door."

It was a message from Zhenya. Kwon Taek Joo checked the time of sending the message, but a new message had just been sent at that moment.

"What?”

Kwon Taek Joo was confused and sat up. The apartment has only one entrance. He couldn't let go of his doubts, slowly walking forward while trying to make a phone call. Occasionally there was a slight vibration coming from outside the door. Kwon Taek Joo confusedly unlocked and opened the door, he could see Zhenya standing tall through the crack in the door. He lowered his voice and asked.

[What's up? Did you forget something?]

[I told you not to stare at me like an abandoned puppy.]

Zhenya said incomprehensible words then suddenly reached out with both hands and held Kwon Taek Joo's face, then walked up and kissed him. Feeling cool lips touching first, then warm breath following, Kwon Taek Joo patted his shoulder and whispered gently.

[Go to my room first.]

Kwon Taek Joo held his breath and held Zhenya's arm through the dark hallway and living room. The distance to your room seems endlessly far.

No infiltration strategy had ever made him so nervous.

Kwon Taek Joo took a deep breath after quietly closing the door and started asking about Zhenya, who had kept quiet until then.

[kid. Why are you suddenly doing things you've never done before?]

[Taek Joo, I told you not to go.]

[When did you say that?]

[You're telling me to go with a face full of sadness and regret, does that mean I have to go?

[I didn’t...]

[You're like that every time.]

Zhenya teased with an extremely unreasonable tone. What did Kwon Taek Joo do? He always blames others.

Zhenya suddenly reached out and grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's hand, brought it close to his lips and gently rubbed his lips on the back of his hand.

[I made a face of not being able to sleep alone, shouldn't you let me drink warm milk as your lover?]

[What?]

Lips met again between whispers. The tongue that was stiff due to tension was mixed with a warm and soft tongue, pressed firmly inside as if blocking the breath and then sucked so hard that the base of the tongue felt painful. Even when Kwon Taek Joo turned his head to avoid it. Zhenya quickly followed and kissed him.

When he regained consciousness, Kwon Taek Joo fell onto the bed. The bed for one person became cramped, he struggled and bumped his elbow into the wall and headboard. The kiss was so intense and persistent that he didn't know when it would stop. After a while of trying not to get carried away, Kwon Taek Joo stopped resisting. Continuing to refuse will only stimulate the desire to conquer, it's better to just adjust it moderately and comfort him.

Kwon Taek Joo gently caressed the back of Zhenya's hand holding his face with her thumb and mixed her tongue sweetly. The boy who once relied on strength as his leader gradually became obedient. Kwon Taek Joo turned over and leisurely sucked Zhenya's tongue. He gently pulled the boy's upper lip and gently brushed the guy's solid upper body before exhaling a pleasant breath.

Kwon Taek Joo sucked Zhenya's lower lip until it made a sound and then let go. His lips were placed on the pointed chin and then gradually lowered to kiss the inside of the neck, Zhenya's body trembled slightly. Kwon Taek Joo tilted his head and little by little lifted the hem of Zhenya's shirt, his hand sweeping across the toned abdomen and chest. Zhenya helped him undress, his hand gently

rubbing his warm ear and then letting go to play with the rarely messy hair that was tangled in the collar. He breathed slowly and grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's butt with both hands.

Kwon Taek Joo grabbed those hands and slowly pulled them out. He placed his lips along Zhenya's lips, chin, collarbone, sternum, and stomach. When he kissed below his navel, Zhenya's penis gently pressed under his chin. Kwon Taek Joo rubbed the waiting wiggling flesh with the tip of his nose. The corner of Zhenya's mouth curled up.

[What is there to do such a commendable thing?

[I said I would give you warm milk to drink.]

Kwon Taek Joo looked at Zhenya, then unzipped his pants, pulled out his big penis, then leaned down to kiss him. The hard, erect meat rose up and slapped his cheek. Kwon Taek Joo's eyebrows furrowed as the heavy sound rang out. Looking at the smirk on Zhenya's face, it was obvious that he did it on purpose.

[I will just eat. I can't let you in.]

Kwon Taek Joo gave a clear warning and then opened his mouth and sucked on Zhenya's lower part. Just with that, the entire mass of flesh vibrated violently. While squeezing the penis with his lips, he slowly moves up to the tip, stimulating sensitive areas such as veins and tendons with the tip of his tongue.

Zhenya gasped, his stomach visibly bulging. Kwon Taek Joo used his tongue to lick the red urethra and held the pole tightly with his whole mouth. Zhenya tilted his head slightly in satisfaction, his chin also raised.

His mouth was completely filled, Kwon Taek Joo swallowed the penis until his throat and then slowly released it. When only the tip remained, he sucked it in again, gently prodding the urethra with the tip of his tongue. Soon the tongue becomes slippery and the characteristic fishy taste spreads. Not caring, he sucked Zhenya's penis again, put it on one cheek, making it bulge, then slowly moved his head. The sensitive flesh is rubbed and stimulated between the hard teeth and soft mouth.

Zhenya's genitals quickly became shiny as if covered with a laver of syrup, and his cheeks turned red like peaches. Zhenya reached out to touch Kwon Taek Joo's thick hair, moving slowly and gently rubbing his ear. Kwon Taek Joo slightly got goosebumps. Zhenya happily rubbed his earlobe, making the hair on Kwon Taek Joo's back stand up.

[Haa, Taek Joo..]

The guy just licked his lips and was about to say something when he suddenly clenched his molars. At the same time, his excited breathing was mixed with soft moans. Porcelain white skin with a rosy blush is so beautiful.

Kwon Taek Joo observed his every change while slowly massaging Zhenya's midsection. His penis was also hot and excited as he watched the guy enjoy the excitement.

During that time, Kwon Taek Joo only gently moved to the middle and pushed it firmly inside the neck. The mass of flesh in his mouth trembled from being squeezed tightly. The feeling of nausea

rose every time the penis touched his throat, but Kwon Taek Joo still lowered his head deeply and sucked his entire genitals. Every time the mass of flesh choked him, his lower abdomen tensed up.

[Ugh...]

Zhenya's head tilted back little by little because of the strong sucking force. His lower body was also hot and stuck close to Kwon Taek Joo's chin. He tried to hold on to his thighs but to no avail. As soon as he released half of his penis, Zhenya lifted himself up and pushed it back inside. He pushed so hard inside his mouth that the fingers pressed against his thighs tilted backwards.

His cheeks were full of saliva. Some of it is inserted into the neck along with the penis and some of it spills out when the flesh is pulled out. Kwon Taek Joo's chin started to hurt.

When Kwon Taek Joo's movements slowed down, Zhenya grabbed his head and quickly raised his lower body and smashed it against the rough palate without stopping. Kwon Taek Joo opened his mouth wide at the brutal attack and grabbed Zhenya's thighs. The mass of meat hit his throat hard and then repeatedly hit the inside of his cheek. Something wet came out, and Kwon Taek Joo swallowed it all.

Zhenya panted while looking at his appearance and then reached out his hand.

[Come here.]

He put his hand under Kwon Taek Joo's armpit and pulled him up as if holding a child and licked his lips wet with saliva and semen.

[My mouth is about to tear, boy.]

"You have to know just enough," Kwon Taek Joo mumbled. Zhenya didn't mind, he turned Kwon Taek Joo's head around and hugged him in one arm. Zhenya then wrapped his hand around his still un-ejaculated penis, Kwon Taek Joo's mouth automatically closed tightly even though he only slightly moved his fingers and stroked it.

Zhenya gently brushed his genitals to stimulate excitement and then placed his lips on Kwon Taek Joo's forehead. Soon his body began to tremble.

[Is this room well soundproofed? Looks like the door isn't locked either.]

Zhenya whispered while squeezing Kwon

Taek Joo's penis. He paused as if he had just been reminded of something he had forgotten but Zhenya added more stimulation to the glans by circling and massaging it. Kwon Taek Joo belatedly tried to grab that arm but couldn't stop it. He buried his head in Zhenya's neck and groaned. He couldn't stand that moan so he bit his neck and told him not to provoke him in such a dangerous voice. Then Zhenya used his fingers to lift Kwon Taek Joo's chin and kissed him on the lips.

Zhenya rubbed his chest over his shirt and kneaded his penis. Kwon Taek Joo breathed hard, moans escaping his mouth. He struggled between wanting this moment to pass quickly and wanting to enjoy it more but all Kwon Taek Joo could do was use his entire body to hug Zhenya.

Finally, Kwon Taek Joo's body, which was flinching little by little, stiffened.

[Ah... Uh...]

He ejaculated into Zhenya's hand. Zhenya gently caressed Kwon Taek Joo's lower abdomen and continued to comfort him. Extreme fatigue made his limbs sag and his eyelids became heavy.

He had to send Zhenya back because he was sure his mother would be surprised to see him.

Kwon Taek Joo fell asleep in a worry.

—

"Taek Joo. Son, won't you wake up?

Kwon Taek Joo woke up to the wake, his mother's face filling his vision. His heart was pounding, his soul scattered and looked around.

"Mom, this, this..."

Kwon Taek Joo was trying to explain why Zhenya was sleeping next to him half-naked, but he couldn't see him anywhere.

".Where did he go?"

"Huh? Who?"

"He came here yesterday."

"What are you talking about?"

Kwon Taek Joo's mother looked at him confused. He dressed neatly and slept well all night so his body felt quite refreshed. It's all a dream.

"I have to go to work. Mom will prepare breakfast so hurry up and get ready."

His mother went out and looked around the room in bewilderment. There is no sign that Zhenya has come and gone. But it was too vivid to call it a dream.

Kwon Taek Joo pulled the pillow up and sniffed. This is the smell of Zhenya.

[Taek Joo, my Rabbit.]

The voice whispering all night long was not a dream.

Kwon Taek Joo stopped by the headquarters and left work early. He still had nothing to do and only visited the National Cemetery before the holiday.

As soon as he left the office, he ran into Yoon Jong Woo in the hallway. He's on his way to find Kwon Taek Joo.

"Where are you going, senior?"

"Ah, home."

"Which house?"

"A house is a house, but what is a house?"

It's almost the holidays, Yoon Jong Woo said.

(Confused with this conversation but just ignore it)

"Ah, we have to visit the grave, right? I'm so lucky that I can spend this holiday season in Korea."

"I know. This time I won't eat songpyeon in the desert again."

"Songpyeon in the desert?"

"Uhm that's how it is. I'm going."

"Ah, wait..."

Kwon Taek Joo was about to say goodbye and leave but Yoon Jong Woo grabbed him. It seemed like something was up, thinking about it, he was holding something in his hand.

"What's up?"

"Hey, didn't you see Yevgeny-sshi today?"

"Why did you meet him?"

"Because you two are close friends."

"Who said they were best friends?"

"He seems to meet the senior's mother often and seems much closer than I thought."

It had to be quite obvious for slow Yoon Jong Woo to notice. Maybe he also heard something the day you sent Zhenya to him. Unlike Kwon Taek Joo, Zhenya didn't try to hide their relationship, but Yoon Jong Woo probably couldn't think the two were lovers.

Kwon Taek Joo stood with his arms crossed.

"So what."

"Tell Yevgeny-sshi 'Please... If he meets Olga, give it to her directly.'"

Yoon Jong Woo held out what he was holding in his hand, which seemed to be a cookie. Certainly, without exchanging phone numbers with Olga, there seems to be no way for Yoon Jong Woo to send this directly.

"Nothing special, Olga was curious about Korean desserts so I quickly bought some popular snacks."

"I tried. Trying."

"I say this because it's between us, but doesn't Olga look like an incarnation of an elf?"

Are there any goblins with guns on their legs? Kwon Taek Joo was stunned.

"You really are too. Don't pay too much attention to someone who only comes to visit for a while."

"I don't."

"It's obvious that everyone sees it all, so why are you still pretending?"

"No, it is not. I just want to let everyone know about Korea."

"What a great patriot. Why doesn't anyone reward a civil servant like this?"

Kwon Taek Joo snatched the bag from Yoon Jong Woo's hand with a sarcastic expression. "I will eat all of this," he said.

"Senior doesn't eat snacks?"

"Listen to my advice. Except for the face, there is no place for cousins."

"So senior also met Yevgeny-ssi?"

"…."

Suddenly he had nothing to say, it wasn't completely wrong but Kwon Taek Joo couldn't confirm that either.

"You're too much in the way. Let's get out of the way."

He pushed Yoon Jong Woo aside and left. Yoon Jong Woo watched for a while then asked again. Kwon Taek Joo stopped listening and went to the parking lot. He climbed into the car and placed the snack package in the passenger seat.

Kwon Taek Joo stopped by the house first because he had to pick up his mother. The elevator went down just as he parked the car and stepped out. As soon as the door opened, Kwon Taek Joo bumped into someone coming down. He was startled and cried out because that person was none other than Zhenya.

[Where did you come from?]

[I just arrived.]

[But you aren’t gone yet?]

[The assistant is making a fuss that I have to go to work today. He said you had to be there because of the upcoming holidays.]

Not to pretend, but Zhenya is really busy because there are many official events at the embassy during the holiday season. No matter how much fun an ambassador has, he must at least attend an event to strengthen the peaceful cooperation between the two countries. Unless you really want to look bad and be forced to return home.

Kwon Taek Joo was about to enter the elevator but Zhenya blocked the front, grabbed the safety bar of the door that was about to close and opened it. Zhenya placed one hand on Kwon Taek Joo's waist.

[Should I not go anymore?]

[What are you talking about? Go quickly and come back.]

[You're making that sad, regretful face again.]

[I don't have it.]

Zhenya removed his hands from his waist, rubbing his nose against Kwon Taek Joo's ear and cheek.

[Taek Joo. That new smell has gone away.]

[Because I took a shower. Go quickly.]

He pushed Zhenya's back and took him out. The moment the door was about to close, Zhenya did not hesitate to put both hands inside and grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's face. He was startled and was about to press the button to open the door, but before that, his face intervened and kissed him.

[Ya... hey, my hand...]

Kwon Taek Joo stuck his head out to stop him, but Zhenya still calmly licked his lips and sucked his tongue. He helplessly pressed the open button to keep the door from closing and let Zhenya kiss to his heart's content. He kissed for a while then pulled away, then went in to kiss again.

[Are you hurt, kid?]

[What injury? Just because of this? You seem so worried about me.]

Arrogant and arrogant. No matter how worried he is, that's all. "Go away," Kwon Taek Joo pushed Zhenya away and pressed the close button. He didn't leave until both doors were completely closed. Even a 5 year old child being taken somewhere alone would not show such an expression. Who is more affectionate with whom? Kwon Taek Joo raised his hand to scratch his chest, where his heart suddenly tingled for no reason.

He adjusted his untidy clothes while going upstairs and wiped his wet lips with the back of his hand.

"Mom, I'm home."

Kwon Taek Joo entered the house and raised his voice. He heard his mother's voice from the kitchen. Are you on the phone? Without a doubt, he went inside and saw a head behind him that he didn't expect at all.

[Taek Joo, you're home so early?]

Olga took the cup of tea and turned to look. Both Zhenya and her went to other people's houses as a matter of course.

[After all, they are siblings, right?]

[Huh? What do you mean? Are you talking about me and that person? Please!]

[No, you two are actually very similar.]

Olga was upset to hear Kwon Taek Joo's conclusion, as if she had suffered a great insult. For some reason, Kwon Taek Joo had the feeling that Zhenya would react the same way. Even that point is the same.

But the outfit that caught Olga's eye was unusual. She always favored flashy outfits like the eight-colored bird, but today she wore a black dress and a black netted hat.

[Why are you dressed like that?]

[What else? When visiting a grave, you must have a dress code. I bought it in a hurry, is it okay?]

Kwon Taek Joo looked at his mother with questioning eyes. His mother smiled contentedly.

"She said she wanted to say hello to your dad and brother. The young girl is as emotional as the ambassador.]

No way. It's more like she wants to wear mourning clothes to act in a sad movie.

Kwon Taek Joo threw a dissatisfied look and then ignored it as if nothing happened.

[Let's prepare quickly. I heard you shouldn't get there too late.]

The host and guest have completely reversed positions. Kwon Taek Joo started to feel a headache.

—

[Korea has many delicious cakes, right? I didn't expect much because this is a country where rice is the main food.]

Olga kept tasting the cake, occasionally turning to offer it to Kwon Taek Joo's mother, even putting a few pieces of cake into her mouth. The two sat next to each other in the backseat and continued a meaningless conversation. They were so friendly that Kwon Taek Joo didn't have time to intervene, his job today was just to drive.

Kwon Taek Joo quietly opened the window to eliminate the typical smell of candy. Olga complained, "The wind blows my hair," and closed the window. That must be a big problem for the nobles.

[So has anything happened during the past year? I've been following foreign news in case something happens.]

Olga asked as she opened the last cookie. They are a family that doesn't feel anything unusual about having to find out what their immediate relatives are doing from foreign news.

[Uhm. He hasn't harmed anyone since coming to Korea and sometimes acts like a crazy person but is also quite obedient.]

[...Is it time for that person to die?]

Olga muttered in a normal tone. When she gave the newly opened cookies to Kwon Taek Joo's mother, she smiled as innocently as possible. He wondered if that was a trait of the Bogdanov bloodline.

[Otherwise, he would have met an excellent trainer, right?]

Olga smiled sinisterly as she looked in the rearview mirror.

What do children know...]

[Do you know that person who went out without saying a word last night until dawn? Strangely, there is a scent coming from him and his bedroom.]

She tilted her head forward and sniffled. Soon, as if there was a sound of wind blowing in Kwon Taek Joo's ears, Olga's face showed a mischievous smile.

[This smell.]

[...Does a good nose also run in families?]

[I'm sensitive to smells. When we met at Ajinoki, Taek Joo smelled exactly like that man so I knew you two were together for a long time.]

[Stick together...]

[But if you can't leave each other even for just one night with such a suspicious scent, why don't you two live together?]

There's nothing she can't say in front of Kwon Taek Joo's mother. I don't know if in Russia there is no concept of politeness or decency, or if only the Bogdanov brothers are like that.

Just in time to reach the parking lot, Kwon Taek Joo quickly parked the car.

[We're almost there, get off the bus.]

[Oh my God! Are you embarrassed, that's surprising.]

Olga burst out laughing. His mother also laughed without knowing why. Even though she wasn't on his side, Kwon Taek Joo sighed.

After parking the car, he carried a basket of flowers and wine and went to the cemetery. Olga slowly followed and looked at the surroundings.

[Is this a cemetery?]

[Same thing. This is where those who died are buried.]

[Ah. Taek Joo's father is a soldier, right? Brother too? Surely an honorable death.]

[There is no such thing as an honorable death.]

Kwon Taek Joo interrupted with a serious face. Olga tilted her head and said [Is that so?]

[I thought Taek Joo also did that job to live with honor and die with honor?]

[I'm just doing what I have to do. It naturally turned out like that. Now I don't know what else to do besides it.]

[Um. Do you mean vacation? Like fate, sometimes it's impossible to escape.]

That is it. Even when people asked him why he did such a dangerous job, Kwon Taek Joo couldn't answer, because he never really thought about the reasons. He took it for granted and now it's become a habit like eating and sleeping. Just like he cannot live without eating and sleeping, it seems that Kwon Taek Joo also will not be able to live if he stops working.

While talking, he came to his father's grave. Kwon Taek Joo poured a glass of wine in front of the tombstone and put down the flower basket. His mother talked to his father while continuously scrubbing the tombstone clean. Olga watched for a moment then opened her mouth.

[Even though Taek Joo's parents were very close when they were alive, right?]

[Let's see, probably.]

[Even though you're dead, is it normal to still remember this? I thought it only appeared in novels. This is something that never happens in my family.]

Olga nodded and told an unexpected story.

[The last time that person returned to Russia, it was the anniversary of his mother's death.]

[Really... Huh?]

That was the first time Kwon Taek Joo knew this. Zhenya said he returned to Russia because he had work to do, but he didn't say anything about the anniversary of his mother's death. Even after he came back, Zhenya only talked about the engagement.

[Don't you know? That's right. That person is the type who doesn't talk about himself often.]

[When did his mother die?]

[His mother?]

Olga was confused as if she had just received a strange question. Then, looking back at the conversation, she let out a sigh.

[Ah, so Taek Joo doesn't know anything? My brothers and I have different mothers. His mother passed away before I was born and then my father remarried. That's why you and I have such a big gap]

[So his mother died when he was young?]

[That's right]

[So...]

Kwon Taek Joo wonders if that lack makes Zhenya become "Psych".

[What do you mean?]

[When we are young, everyone longs for a mother and hates being separated.]

[Uhm... is that so? Among them, none of them felt their mother's hand. Your mother is also not a person with strong maternal love. As Taek Joo also knows, our family has had arranged marriages for generations. So is your mother. Because she is an independent person, she is not bound to a loveless marriage or a family built without affection. So she's not always at home. She seems to prefer being alone rather than spending time with her family. It is said that if she gives birth to three sons with her father, her marital obligations will be completed. She died not long after he was born while on a cruise. The body was also not recovered, so a separate grave could not be made. Not long after, my father remarried my mother. There are a lot of rumors going around, that my father killed your mother to marry my mother, because he had acquired a huge amount of wealth and power through another arranged marriage.]

She shrugged her shoulders as if such rumors were unreliable. Both Zhenya and Olga were very indifferent when telling their stories, as if they were someone else's story.

[Although it's nothing to be proud of, my father is quite decent when it comes to women. However, he was very strict in matters of parentage, so every time we were born, we had to have a paternity test. Besides his two official wives, he never had children with any other woman. So I don't have any illegitimate siblings.]

The more Kwon Taek Joo listened, the more surprised he became. Is that why Zhenya grew up not attached to his family, had a promiscuous sex life and liked to be alone? Not all brothers are like that so his personality is to some extent innate, but if he grew up in a family that was even a little bit normal, maybe he wouldn't be called "Psych".

Kwon Taek Joo remembered Zhenya teasing him as Mamaboy. He was surprised at Kwon Taek Joo's responsibility, obligation and guilt towards his mother and he found it strange that his mother only lived for Kwon Taek Joo. Just like Zhenya's family life is still strange to Kwon Taek Joo.

[I didn’t know, he didn't say anything.]

[What, that's not a good thing. My father also doesn't care about the anniversary of his mother's death. I don't know about the other guys, but every year around that time, that person puts aside work and goes to Ajinoki Island. I don't know if it's because he's remembering his dead mother in his own way or because he's not happy anymore.]

Even Kwon Taek Joo couldn't guess Zhenya's thoughts, but the chaos he encountered on each anniversary of his mother's death and not being able to even name that emotion was pitiful.

[I think my father sees us as racehorses. On this death anniversary, he knew that person would return to Russia, so he held an engagement ceremony. He hasn't talked about that yet?]

[I heard it briefly.]

Olga tilted her head to explain.

[Teak Joo knows that person is notorious. What sane person would want him as a son-in-law? Therefore, the story of engagement or marriage did not appear at all for a long time. But this time it seems he has found a suitable marriage partner. Because it's just us together, I say that, but the family over there is not the average type. The person mentioned as the engaged person is also quite a scary person.]

How scary is that, what kind of person is he? If it's an engagement, it must be a woman. Is she the same age as Zhenya?

Kwon Taek Joo had many questions but didn't ask a word, he didn't want to show interest. No, he didn't even want to admit it to himself.

[Aren't you curious what that person did and how he reacted?]

[What...]

[Hmm. That person never believed his father, no matter what he said, he never followed through. So everyone thought he would naturally object, but they didn't expect him to say he understood! How could that person humbly accept the family's wishes? No way. He has it all planned out.]

[Plan? What...]

[My father hurriedly prepared the engagement ceremony in case that person changed his mind. But on the day of the engagement ceremony, the two parties did not appear. Finally, while preparing to go to the party, it suddenly became noisy outside. When I went out, two people had arrived but they looked like they were fighting hand to hand. Both of their cars were so distorted that it was unclear how they rolled, but even the traffic police followed each other in pursuit. Then I checked the CCTV on the street and saw them playing the electric car crash game. Actually, the two of them have known each other since they were very young because their families are familiar and their personalities are completely similar, so they don't get along very well, to the point of almost being enemies.]

Kwon Taek Joo is even more curious about the other engagement person. A Zhenya woman? Just imagining it was enough to make his head hurt.

[It's not over yet. That crazy guy also brought explosives and said shouldn't fireworks be set off on a nice day. The adults in the house were very surprised. It's a pity that I can't show it to you.]

Olga looked very sorry. She did not hesitate to call Zhenya a crazy person and seemed to enjoy his actions.

[That person said he would set off fireworks the next time my father tried to do what he wanted. That person will just do what he wants, he probably has a missile prepared somewhere. Hmm... That's how the engagement story was forgotten.]

Kwon Taek Joo listened silently and covered his eyes with his hands. There is no evidence that Zhenya caused the commotion because of Kwon Taek Joo. That was just one example of how his family tried to force marriage while ignoring the opinions of someone like him who hated being tied down.

That must have been it, but Kwon Taek Joo's ears suddenly felt hot. He didn't know that and thought a lot. Kwon Taek Joo just thought that the reason he was sad was because Zhenya was superficial when it came to the engagement and didn't contact him even when he came back late.

[Where are you, who are you meeting, what are you doing? If you're obsessed and want to tie me down, then go ahead.]

[Engagement or marriage is not important to me. If you don't like it, why don't you say it directly, at least I'll find you cute.]

The face of the silently happy boy appeared in Kwon Taek Joo's mind, he suddenly felt embarrassed and ashamed.

[Taek Joo. Since we've come this far, take a picture for me.]

Olga held out her phone. Before he knew it, Kwon Taek Joo was holding a lace umbrella in his hand.

[Do you want to take a photo in front of the grave?]

[I am a patient after all. I don't know what will happen tomorrow so I have to capture every moment.]

Suddenly feeling a strange sense of guilt, with no other choice, Kwon Taek Joo pressed the shutter button a few times and threw the phone back. The photo was not shaky and his face was normal, but Olga scolded him for not taking the photo seriously.

In the end, Kwon Taek Joo took dozens of photos in just one location. "I tried my best but I couldn't save it," he said. If she weren't a woman, he would have punched her.

[Anyway, you've worked hard so I'll give you this.]

In return, Olga took something out of her purse and gave it to him. It's a photo of a boy. Kwon Taek Joo glanced at it and softly exclaimed.

[Ah? This kid...]

The child in the photo looked like the child he often dreamed about. Kwon Taek Joo vaguely thought it was Zhenya, but he had never seen a picture of him as a child so he wasn't sure.

[Is it Zhenya?]

[Yes. Have you seen it before?]

[...Not yet.]

[Beautiful, right?]

[What?....]

[I have never seen such a beautiful child in my life. That's why I carry it with me, it doesn't have any special meaning.]

Olga draws the line by saying "Don't think strangely." then arbitrarily stuffed the photo into Kwon Taek Joo's jacket pocket.

[This is my only precious photo but please keep it.]

[Alright]

[Let's see, take when given. If that person makes you angry, look at this and calm down, it's quite effective.]

Surely it's guaranteed to be effective, Kwon Taek Joo was speechless and burst out laughing.

Olga quickly looked back at the tombstones lined up close together.

[I don't live longer than Taek Joo but I know because I'm always close to death. People always want to be happy and only hope for good things to happen, but in reality, life is just like that, so what's interesting? Sometimes you have to go through sadness, depression, illness or pain to know how precious the normal luck that comes afterward is.]

It's pitiful that way, she continued.

[That person is a person lacking emotions. In this world there are only things that that person cares about and trivial things, but there is no happiness, joy, sadness, or pain. To be honest, this was the first time he had paid attention to another person in such a long time. I thought that person would live like that and then die. Now maybe it could be different.]

[What's so grand?]

[What a surprising turn of events. The hero went to save the beauty captured by Koshiche. But I like this ending. I know it's too much to ask for help, but please keep an eye on that person, Taek Joo should also sympathize with that monster.]

After completing the request, Olga followed Kwon Taek Joo's mother to his brother's grave. He stood alone and took the photo out of his jacket. Zhenya's face was expressionless even as a child, it

resembled the child he had seen in his dream. Kwon Taek Joo patted his cheek that looked stubborn in the photo.

Even when he doesn't want to, Kwon Taek Joo is filled with unbelievable sadness. Is there one more thing to worry about and regret? Even he couldn't understand himself.

Suddenly he thought of Zhenya. Kwon Taek Joo took out his phone and tried to call him. At that moment a vibrating sound rang out. It’s Zhenya.

5.23 Side Story - End

The sun started to set. The wind also became colder. Kwon Taek Joo took his mother and Olga home first and then stayed alone to wait for Zhenya. He informed Zhenya to come over as soon as he finished work.

Not long after, the distinctive engine sound came from behind the parking lot. Kwon Taek Joo turned around, Zhenya was walking towards him with his long dress fluttering. Except for the face, everything from the neck to the toes is black. Kwon Taek Joo smiled, the guy walked up to stand in front of him, looking puzzled.

[Why did you laugh?]

[You look like 'Death'.]

[What is it?]

[It's the same as me now.]

Zhenya's face was still bewildered but Kwon Taek Joo did not explain further, he pointed to the two fleur de lis Zhenya was holding in his hand.

(Fleur de lis is a type of flower)

[It is said that this is a memorial place for the deceased, a place where your bloodline is buried.]

[Um. But what to do? It's late now so I can't go in.]

Zhenya shrugged his shoulders indifferently and then handed the fleur-de-lis he was holding towards Kwon Taek Joo.

[Know how to be. Taek Joo, I give this to you.]

[Really scary romance. The first flower I received was a visiting flower.]

Kwon Taek Joo grumbled while burying his nose in the lilies, the sweet scent emanating from them. He had never received flowers except at the entrance ceremony or graduation ceremony. Even if it was just by chance, his mood wasn't too bad. Kwon Taek Joo touched the unwrapped flowers and felt very lucky.

[My dad and brother are sleeping over there. Both of them asked him to take care of mother, as if they already knew that they couldn't do it. Now my mother only has me.]

[What are you talking about that everyone knows?]

[Looks like you've become too evil. For me, you can't always be number 1. I can't throw everything away like you and can't just look at only you. Mom might just be an excuse because even though he's worried about her, he still keeps doing things she hates. I can't give up my job, my mom, and you. I want all of those things.]

Kwon Taek Joo reached out and grabbed Zhenya's sleeve. Although he wasn't sure because he didn't look at his face, it seemed like the guy was showing a rare expression of surprise.

[If I'm with you, my patience will continue to be tested. Even so, you.. please don't be tired and continue to wait for me. I don't want to be abandoned by you. How selfish.]

Kwon Taek Joo raised his head to look at Zhenya. He was quite confused by the unexpected situation.

[...Taek Joo?]

[You're grumbling again. Since I said so, you agree.]

Zhenya's somewhat shocked face calmed down immediately. The monster does not know how to be so beautiful. Kwon Taek Joo seemed to rush in without hesitation, recklessly kissing him. Even though it was an outdoor parking lot, two lips pressed together and then slowly parted with a long breath following.

The next moment, he grabbed Kwon Taek Joo's arms. He was immediately pulled towards Zhenya before he could retreat. The kiss was as deep as if a lover could release all their longing after seeing each other for many days. Even if they gave away all their breath, they still wouldn't want to let go.

[Taek Joo, just do what you want. I will do the same. I came all this way to catch you and now I chase you every day. It will be the same later. Sometimes it's a bit annoying but one thing is clear, that is I have never been so happy in my life.]

(□)

Kwon Taek Joo quietly looked into those clear eyes, in which only he was reflected, and his eyes were no different.

He played with Zhenya's chin and tried to kiss him again. The phone that had been silent for a while suddenly rang. With a bad feeling, Kwon Taek Joo checked the sender. He sighed heavily and accepted the call.

"Yes, Kwon Taek Joo listening.”

Kwon Taek Joo listened on the other end of the line. The call ended quickly because it was a summons from headquarters after a period of quiet.

Kwon Taek Joo sheepishly scratched his ear.

[Hey, you know...]

[The little woman has to worry again.]

Zhenya muttered to himself and then took his hand. He bit his finger and then pretended to kiss the back of his hand. Kwon Taek Joo's eyes narrowed at the tickling feeling. Zhenya let go only after leaving clear tooth marks on his knuckles.

[I'm not busy with anything special so I'll keep an eye on your mother.]

Zhenya offered to help and then nodded signaling that Kwon Taek Joo should leave. Kwon Taek Joo hesitantly stepped back.

[Shall I go?]

[See you soon.]

Leaving Zhenya pouting behind, Kwon Taek Joo climbed into the car. But even after starting the engine, he still couldn't start right away. As if to say goodbye again, he flashed the two rear lights a few times before hastily leaving. A lovely goodbye from a cold man, Zhenya looked and smiled brightly.

The End.